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CHINA STRENGTHENS DEFENSE

Bridges Assails Back Door War In 'Peace' Talks

CIO Director Cites Employers' Union-Busting Activity at Conference With Committee of 43

SAN FRANCISCO—"We are here, but very skeptical," said Harry Bridges in his opening remarks for the CIO delegation, at the conference with the Committee of 43 representatives in the Mills Bldg. last Wednesday.

After discussing the proposals of the employers' spokesmen for "industrial peace," the seven CIO leaders walked out of the conference room several hours later—still skeptical.

"The Committee of 43 says it wants to get together with labor," says Bridges, "and behind the door, its members are trying to chop our unions down."

Bridges Cites Cases
"Certain of our unions are engaged in negotiations with some of your associates. They are not making any progress due to the attitude of your associates who feel protected by your committee, what it represents and how it is built up in the minds of the public."

"Your associates don't even want to let the unions keep what they have, but are trying to take something away from them. You talk 'industrial peace.' That's the front, but behind the scenes we see attempts to chop our unions down and discriminate against their members."

The CIO Pacific Coast director particularly cited the threat of the wholesale grocery warehouses to lock out all their employees Jan. 1 to defeat demands of the Warehousemen's Union for the five day, 40-hour week and wage raises from 70 to 85 cents per hour.

Also mentioned by Bridges was the firing of 750 employees, chiefly CIO members, by the Pacific Gas & Electric Co. in order to intimidate workers from voting for the CIO United Electrical, Radio & Machine workers of America.

"While we are talking peace here," declared Eugene Paton, Warehousers' president, "members of your committee are out talking against us. They present us with a yellow-dog contract, saying: 'This is what you're going to get—take it or leave it.'"

Herman Stuyvelaar, Ship Clerks' leader, read a copy of a semi-secret letter being issued by distributors, in cooperation with the grocery owners, to grocers: "Should the union refuse to recede from its position, the whole..."

(Continued on Page 8, Col. 2)

Firemen Vote For CIO Tie in Early Count

National Maritime Union Captures Three More Labor Board Polls

SAN FRANCISCO—Unofficial tabulation of a Marine Firemen's Oilers' and Watertenders' Union referendum showed CIO affiliation favored by a vote of 1189 to 306.

That leaves the Sailors Union the only one of the three unlicensed seafaring crafts on the Pacific Coast as yet not on record for CIO.

The Marine Cooks voted CIO in a previous ballot. The Sailors are now voting in a three-way referendum. A former ballot on the issue was destroyed and it was admittedly for CIO.

THREE MORE FOR NMU

NEW YORK — The National Maritime Union, CIO affiliate, added three more to its long string of victories in elections being conducted by the National Labor Relations Board.

Seamen of the Munson, Grace and American Foreign steamship lines voted for the NMU last week. Munson went 744 votes for the NMU as against 42 for the International Seamen's Union; Grace, 765 for the NMU, 14 for the ISU, and 47 against either union; American Foreign, 92 for the NMU and four against any union.

SCOTTSBORO BOYS HERE CHRISTMAS

Wright and Montgomery to Speak in 3 California Cities

SAN FRANCISCO—Two of the Scottsboro boys, Roy Wright and Olin Montgomery, will arrive Christmas morning, 7:50 a. m., at the Ferry Building here.

A delegation of prominent Negroes and progressives will meet the boys, according to Harry Williams, secretary of the Labor Committee of the National Negro Congress.

Their first engagement on a tour of leading Pacific Coast cities, the boys will speak here Tuesday night, December 28, at Third Baptist Church, corner Clay and Hyde Streets. Edward Mabson, attorney and president of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, will preside at the meeting, which is being sponsored by the NAACP, the National Negro Congress, the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, the CIO Council, Third Baptist Church, the International Labor Defense, and other progressive groups.

Alameda County will hear the famous defendants Thursday night, December 28, at Fifteenth Street A. M. E. Church, Oakland according to C. L. Dellums, Negro Congress president there and vice president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

At 8 o'clock p. m., in Trinity Auditorium, January 5, the boys will speak to a Los Angeles audience, after an engagement January 4 in Santa Monica.

Lundeberg Fights Pro-CIO Sailors

HONOLULU—The Honolulu Branch, Sailors Union of the Pacific, voted Thursday to reinstate Dan DeLuccia, local agent, and adopted a resolution condemning Secretary Harry Lundeberg for his efforts to suspend DeLuccia.

SAN FRANCISCO — Harry Lundeberg, Sailors Union of the Pacific secretary, announced that a special meeting he had called Wednesday voted to suspend the SUP Honolulu agent, Dan DeLuccia, on grounds he had "tried to intimidate seamen into voting for the Committee for Industrial Organization," in the current three-way affiliation referendum. Lundeberg said the Honolulu hiring hall was ordered closed and no official action taken until arrival there of Morris Weisberger, dispatched to take over the agent's post.

The three-way ballot will be concluded December 31.

TORIES PLAYED AS F.R. PLEDGES NEW WAGE BILL

Hits Press Campaign to "Add Fear Psychology" to Sabotage

WASHINGTON—President Roosevelt declared in a statement following the adjournment of the special session of Congress that he had no intention of abandoning the wages and hours bill nor of retreating in any way before the reactionary coalition which sidetracked that bill and failed to act on any part of the program put before it.

In a letter to Chairman Wilbur Wright (D., Okla.), of the House Roads committee, he put definite responsibility on Congress for any possible "pork-barrel" expenditures which would put the load of budget-cutting on direct federal relief or WPA instead of such expenditures as road construction, which entail less employment.

Challenges Tories
His letter plainly threw down the gauntlet to reactionaries in his own party when he said that "obviously the Democratic members, which have such a large majority in the Congress, must equally accept full responsibility."

While Cartwright had reported that 13 out of 20 of the members of the House Committee had opposed making cuts in these vetting expenditures, the House appropriations sub-committee tentatively agreed to slash funds from the Tennessee Valley Authority and other agencies vital to the essential reforms of the New Deal.

In a press conference the President directly accused a large percentage of the American press and big business with deliberately fostering the "fear psychology" in connection with the business recession.

He cited instances of leading business figures who said they were restrained by their associates from publicly endorsing such measures as crop price stabilization and control and regulation of wages and hours.

C. P. Editor Urges Action to Curb War Aggressors

NEW YORK—Clarence Hathaway, editor of the Daily Worker and member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, called upon the Roosevelt administration to break off all relations with Germany, Italy and Japan until these nations cease their aggression against others.

Hathaway spoke over a network of the Columbia Broadcasting Company.

Fully endorsing the President's Chicago speech, in which the latter urged a quarantine of aggressor nations, the Communist spokesman vigorously opposed the Ludlow resolution for a constitutional amendment requiring a referendum of the people for the declaration of war unless the United States is actually invaded.

Such a scheme, he pointed out, would actually serve the fascist nations as an open invitation for further aggression and spread of warfare.

The bill has already won the support of Nazi organizations. Liberals who supported it were misguided by its deceptive appearance as a peace measure, he said.

SPECIAL NOTICE

All future communications to The Western Worker should be addressed to The People's World, 583 Market Street, San Francisco, Calif. The new telephone number is EX-brook 1602.

Holy Night, Silent Night

—by Vernon



PEACE ON EARTH

THE CHRISTMAS bells pealed and the roar of guns echoed from the West and from the East, from Spain and from China.

"Peace on earth," men said to each other in the traditional manner, and in far corners of the earth women and children were being slaughtered by the war-mad rulers of Japan and Italy and Germany.

Peace! All the peoples of the world desire it with a fervent desire. And there is no peace. And the blot of war threatens to spread until it engulfs the entire world.

This is the panorama on which dawns another Christmas morn.

Those who desire peace must seek it with the same determination and intensity as the aggressors and trespassers seek war. And those who desire peace must unite in common bond for their common purpose, nations as well as peoples.

This is the great thought worth while today. This is the great thought that must be made the common thought of all the American people. Unity of peace-loving peoples against the war-mad aggressors so that "Peace on Earth" may not only be a fervent wish, but an actuality.

So. Pacific Lays Off 2400 More 'for Xmas'

SAN FRANCISCO — The tycoons of the Southern Pacific Railroad observed Christmas last Wednesday by handing 2400 of their shop employees a "gift" in the form of layoffs.

The third of such layoffs in the last two months, it brought the total of men railroaded out of their jobs to 4900. Only three weeks ago 2000 were laid off in all shops on the S. P. system, from El Paso to Portland.

Mostly '22 Scabs Left
"The majority of the men left working in the shops are those who scabbed in the 1922 shop crafts strike," declared one local union leader. "It's worse than the crisis following the 1929 stock market crash."

Another craft leader estimated 65 per cent of the shop men have been laid off.

General Chairman Walter Jones, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen & Engineers, stated:

"Our members are very definitely affected by the let-up in traffic. While it has nothing to do with the shop layoffs, it seems to run rather concurrently. We have suffered very materially. Layoffs have come in practically every district on the system."

Chairman R. J. Brooks, of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, attributed the traffic let-up and consequent unemployment to "seasonal" reasons.

S. P. Profiteers
The Southern Pacific has recently dipped into the public pocketbook, with freight rate increases granted both by the California State Railroad Commission and the Interstate Commerce, and with the other railroads, is demanding further increases totaling over half a billion dollars on a national scale.

Council Joins in Layoff Campaign

LOS ANGELES—Even the City Council is sitting down on the workers. The present wave of layoffs has also affected the Council as they revealed that 213 city jobs have been abolished.

These positions have been vacated by retiring workers who are now on pension.

Councilman Tate claimed that more than \$267,000 savings per year will result from their action. He contended that the step was necessary so that sufficient funds could be saved to carry out provisions of the pension act. The plan will be continued several years until the payroll slashes have provided a permanent revolving fund.

Strikers Hold Yule Party on Picket Line

Bonfires to Light Up the Festivities at Redwood City Mushroom Co.

REDWOOD CITY—Santa Claus on the picket line!

Forty-four men and women, mostly Spanish and Mexican, will have their Christmas party on the picket line at the Golden State Mushroom Company where they have been on strike for three weeks.

Three huge bonfires will light up the festivities on Christmas eve and provide warmth in addition to several guitar and mandolin players.

The strikers are asking a reduction from nine to eight hours a day; wage increases from 35 to 50 cents an hour for men, from 30 to 40 cents for women; the union shop and time and a half for overtime.

Tokio Jails Progressives

TOKYO—After a series of drastic raids directed against growing opposition to the government's militarist policy, Japanese police announced last week that 370 workers and progressives, mainly members of the progressive Proletarian Party, had been arrested.

Kanju Kato, leader of that party and head of its delegation in parliament, was one of those caught in the net of terror which spread over 17 prefectures including that of Tokyo where 108 were arrested.

Police officials, as usual, branded the prisoners as Bolshevik sympathizers and claimed that they had received subversive instructions from the Communist Party of the United States. Kato, not a Communist, is an outstanding trade union leader widely known in this country following his U. S. tour in 1935.

Group Aided Families
As far as could be determined, the accused were conducting a campaign for relief of families.

The party attacked was conducting a campaign for relief of soldiers now fighting in China and was supporting demands for payment of regular labor wages to the soldiers.

Among those seized were several outstanding Japanese writers and educators of high repute, including Tsuneo Inomata, Kan-son Arakata, Gitaro Omori and Itsuro Sakisaka.

BEDAUX SYSTEM

PARIS — Eighteen hundred workers of the Goodrich Tire factory in Colombes, northwest Paris suburbs, began a stay in strike in protest against what their officials said was application of the Bedaux system

Unity Speeded As Chiang Heads New Gov't Set-up

Anti-Japanese Front Purges Ranks of Treacherous Elements, Draws In Communist Support

SHANGHAI—Complete centralization of China's military defense, civil government and administration of industry was established by the Military Affairs Commission under Chiang Kai-shek, authoritative Chinese sources announced here Friday.

The decree, issued by the Central government from its emergency capital in Chungking, carries out the process begun with elimination of pro-Japanese influences from positions of authority.

The Military Affairs Commission, as now constituted, is charged with responsibility to cooperate with all civilian organizations to rally every form of defense cooperation, including regulation of industrial and agricultural output, conservation of resources and developing mass activity for unity and defense by the Chinese people.

While the Japanese were fast bringing international complications upon them for the Panay incident and other examples of encroachments on foreign holdings in China, new slaughter was imminent both in Shantung province and south of Shanghai.

The Japanese drive toward Hangchow port on the Chinese Coast, where the invaders warned foreign nationals to evacuate. Its capture would place Hongkong and Canton, both British strongholds, directly in line as the next logical centers of Japanese attack.

Reorganization of China's central government, according to dispatches from the new seat of the government at Hankow, was taking place along the lines of national unity and resistance to Japan advocated from the start of the war by the powerful Communist Party of China.

Fantastic stories, emanating from pro-Japanese sources, interpreted the move to Hankow as Communist domination or Sovietization of China. Such stories were branded here as utterly unfounded and out of keeping with the policy of unity of all Chinese forces willing to fight the aggressor.

The report of "Sovietization" was built around the reported reconciliation of Chiang-kuo, son of Chiang Kai-shek, after 10 years of estrangement during which the son opposed his father's tactics of civil war in preference to unity against Japan. This was turned into an unfounded story that young Chiang was leading a Soviet-equipped Mongol army of 100,000 into North China to cooperate with the Eighth Route Army under the Communist general Chu Teh.

Pro-Japanese Purge
Reports from Hankow, however, did say that Yu Yu-Jen, president of the Executive Yuan of the Central Government, demanded the resignation of H. H. Kung, who leans strongly toward the Japanese clique within the government.

Several other leading advocates of capitulation to Japan were stripped of their posts through the earlier abolition of the Central Political Council. Among them were Wang Ching-wei, former premier, and Chen Li-fu, head of the mass organization department.

San Bernardino—Despite vigilante terror and official connivance with thugs against progressives here, this Communist Party county organization today goes over the top with a 100 per cent fulfillment of its drive quota for the People's World.

For additional Drive information, see Page 6.

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Special Session May Take Up Housing Act

MERRIAM ALSO PLACES STATE OIL ON AGENDA

Legislature May Convene January to Reopen Vital Issues Before State

SACRAMENTO — Governor Frank F. Merriam, who pocketed an enabling act to permit the state to take advantage of federal funds for housing projects, let it be known here that he is considering a turn-about. Apparently under pressure generated by the Assembly Interim Committee on Social Welfare, which brought out evidence of wretched housing conditions in Los Angeles, the governor let it be known here that he may call a special session of the legislature with housing as one of the questions on the agenda. Another topic suggested by Merriam for the possible special session is that of the state tideland oil protection, over which progressive legislators are flung charges of bribery in the interest of the Standard Oil Company in the wake of the last regular session last Spring.

Although Merriam did not include it, the question of the relief problems for thousands of Californians unemployed through the business recession engineered by big business is expected to figure strongly in the session if called.

If called, the special would be early in 1938, probably beginning in January. Normally, the legislature would not meet until January, 1939.

Representative John Dockweiler, McAdoo Democrat from Los Angeles and candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor, had assumed strong concern over the housing question and was informed by Federal Housing Administrator Nathan Straus that an enabling act of the state legislature was prerequisite to securing Federal funds for the state to qualify for part of the 500 million dollar funds of the Wagner-Steagall bill.

Leading Act Necessary. Straus himself suggested a special session, saying it is doubtful whether Los Angeles County alone "has the legal power to undertake and finance low cost housing and slum clearance projects of the type contemplated in the 1937 housing act."

Other items suggested by Merriam for the projected special session include:

1. Consideration of proposals to tax race track bookmaking outside track inclosures in the event of court decisions outlawing present laws.

2. Consideration of an appropriation of \$100,000 for the state industrial accident commission to replace the funds cut out by Merriam. Validity of Merriam's decapitation of these funds is under attack in the courts.

Renew Oil Fight. 3. Legislation to protect the state's interest in tideland oil. At the last session the legislature, with Merriam's assistance, was charged with virtually giving the Standard Oil Company five million dollars in the settlement of the Huntington Beach tideland oil case. Having first rejected a bill providing for the state's drilling its own oil and demanding payment in full for oil already taken out by the Standard through slant drilling, the legislature then passed the Olson bill which would have allowed for leases but also provided for state drilling in the event of no favorable bids.

Merriam signed this, but precedence was given to the later Welch bill which he signed, settling claims against the Standard Oil Company for slightly over \$500,000, a fraction of the amount of oil actually taken from the state pool.

Charges of attempted bribery in favor of the Welch bill were flung by Senator Olson and others on the floor of the legislature. Later, Assemblyman Gene Flint stood trial on a bribery charge in connection with the passage of the reactionary measure.

Senators Use Side Issue To Attack Mooney Appeal

WASHINGTON—Seizing on the excuse of the alleged use of a reproduction of a Senate judiciary committee letterhead on a Mooney Defense Committee written appeal, senators in the special committee investigating the Mooney case attempted to turn the hearing into an indirect attack on Mooney's appeal for justice.

After numerous comments from committee senators, indicating that they were confident of Mooney's innocence, they suddenly gave widespread publicity to a barrage from Senator Henry F. Ashurst (D., Ariz.), member of the judiciary committee.

Making the use of the letterhead as his starting point, Ashurst launched an attack against the resolution to memorialize Governor Merriam to

Union Men Put in Office in North Minnesota Towns

VIRGINIA, Minn.—As a result of sweeping victories in city and village elections of the Mesaba and Vermillion Ranges, three towns boast CIO mayors as well as many other village officials who carry union cards.

Other villages, including Ely, known as the "fortress" of the steel trust, have elected union candidates to minor offices. The latter elected the only union candidate by a clear majority over his two opponents for council.

Until the CIO began to organize the miners eight months ago the Iron Ranges were so completely under the domination of mining companies that workers even feared to vote.

Los Angeles Utility Tries To Hike Fares

Asks Permission to Load Recent Pay Raises on L. A. Public

LOS ANGELES—Whether recent \$750,000 pay increases granted to Pacific Electric Employees by the Federal Mediation Board, shall be shunted to the public through increase in street car rates, must be decided by the State Railroad Commission.

Company officials filed an application with the Commission requesting a blanket increase of rates for Pacific Electric Co., Motor Coach Co., and Motor Transit Co., giving as excuse the wage increases recently won by the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen.

The PE asks that five cent fare zones be changed to seven cents and fares to surrounding cities and suburbs be proportionately increased.

League to Act. The Board of Public Utilities and Transportation will meet to decide whether the city should oppose it.

In an interview, Rube Borough, member of the Board of Directors of the Municipal League said the league has yet had a chance to study the situation.

"Certainly this proposed increase is of the most pressing public concern and the Municipal League will want to know whether such an increase is just."

Federal Official Attacks Labor

BOULDER CITY, Nev.—In direct violation of the Wagner Act, John C. Page, U. S. Reclamation Commissioner, said the government must maintain an "open shop labor policy" on all construction jobs it handles directly, claiming that to permit a closed shop would be "handing the government's sovereign power to a union. Page made his attack on organized labor while dedicating an 11-foot bronze plaque to the 4000 men who built Boulder Dam.

Civil Liberties Union Supports Labor Board in Weirton Steel Case

WASHINGTON—The American Civil Liberties Union declared that the National Labor Relations Board is right in forbidding employers to circulate anti-union printed matter among their employees, and upheld the board's right to ask editors whether circulation of such matter in periodicals was inspired by an employer under investigation, in a public announcement made last Sunday.

Hartley W. Barclay, editor of a trade magazine, has refused to obey a subpoena issued by the Board in the Weirton Steel Co. case brought by the CIO Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

grant Mooney a pardon. Senator O'Mahoney (D., Wyo.) was among those who immediately turned to attack Mooney. Previously he had admitted his belief in Mooney's innocence. Immediately, the letterhead issue overshadowed all else and he launched into a condemnation without further comment on the issue before his special committee.

PG&E ONLY AN "AGENT," SAYS S. F. ATTORNEY

O'Toole Files City Answer to Government Suit on Raker Act

SAN FRANCISCO—Electricity users in San Francisco were surprised to learn, through City Attorney John J. O'Toole's answer to the Federal Government's suit against the city, that they do not buy electricity from the Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

The bills which they get from the PG&E, it was argued in effect, are in reality bills from the City and County of San Francisco with the PG&E acting as "agent."

By this ledgermain, the city administration sought to deny that its contract with the PG&E was out of keeping with Section 6 of the Raker Act.

The Act grants San Francisco certain lands and right of way in Yosemite National Park and Section 6 provides that power generated by the Federal Mediation Board, shall be sold to any private corporation for resale.

The case, for which government arguments have already been heard, will reopen before Federal Judge Michael J. Roche on January 3.

While denying that the contract constituted sale of power for resale, the brief filed by O'Toole charged that the Raker act was in itself unconstitutional. By implication, however, it admitted that the Act might be constitutional when it said that if the contract failed in all respects to be one of pure agency, it could be cured by amendments.

Goes Afield. At the same time, the voluminous brief sought to evade the demands of the government suit by the irrelevant assertion that the city had met all its financial obligations to the U. S. government in connection with Hetch Hetchy, including the construction of roads in Yosemite Valley, or cash payment for same, and the payment of \$30,000 annually.

Again it drifted away from the issue at hand when it pointed out that the people of San Francisco have several times voted against bond issues to buy the PG&E distribution system.

Proponents of municipal power distribution by which the provisions of the Raker Act could be complied with, point out that the issue has always been put on the ballot in such a way as to allow the PG&E an exorbitant price for its San Francisco system.

L.A. Business Hits New Low

War Industries Maintain Output During Slump

LOS ANGELES — Industrial decline continued in southern California during November, with curtailment of manufacturing activity deepening the recession into deeper slump, according to the monthly summary of business conditions just released by the Security-First National Bank of Los Angeles.

The decline in production reduced both the number of working hours and the number of employees, with a corresponding decrease in mass purchasing power. Despite this, however, corporation directorates continued to carve up profit-melons as Christmas and year-end special dividends to investors.

"Curtailement of manufacturing activity," said the report, "has been exceptionally rapid, with many plants in the iron and steel, tire and rubber, machinery and tool, building material, furniture and other lines."

War Industries Hold Up. The automobile industry is making a slow start with 1938 models. Concern over box office receipts has started a wave of curtailment and expense control throughout the important motion picture field. Business failures are increasing but as yet remain relatively low except among the textile and clothing manufacturers.

Maintaining output at relatively high levels were the oil and aircraft industries, but their activity stemmed almost entirely from war and war preparations. Increased supplies of fuel oil and gasoline for shipment to Japan account for sustained production in this basic industry, while in aircraft at the beginning of October 80 per cent of the total backlog of orders was for military purposes.

San Francisco

Jack McDonald's BOOK STORE

Latest Books on Russia Also Books and pamphlets for students of Communism. 65 Sixth St., San Francisco.

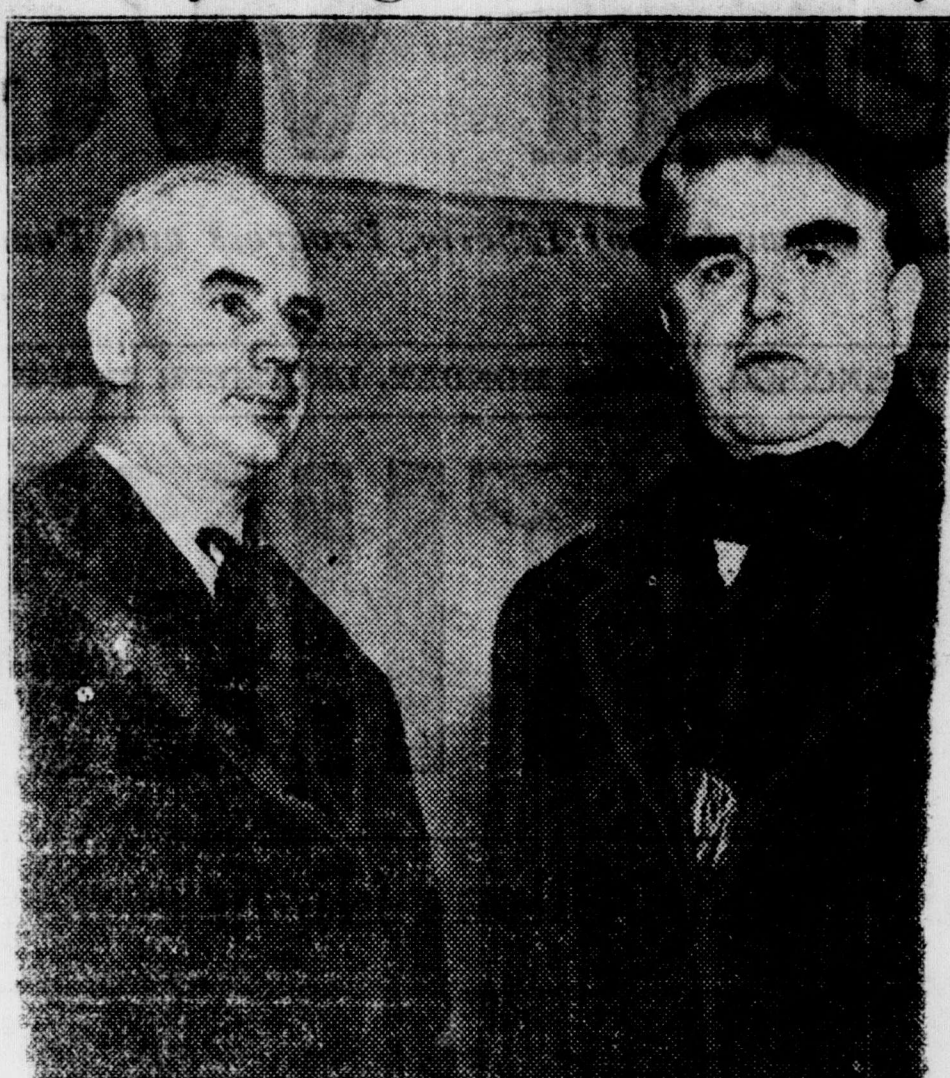
Give Your CHRISTMAS GIFT To Daily People's World

That Gift That You Wouldn't Know What to Do With

Send It to the 3-day Bazaar to be Held at 121 Haight Street, New Year's Eve, Jan. 1st and 2nd

They Sought Labor's Unity

They Sought Labor's Unity



Shows Lewis (left) chairman of the CIO committee, and John L. Lewis, chairman of the CIO, as they met at the Willard Hotel in Washington to meet with leaders of the F. of L. for unity discussions.

With Shoulders Squared Disinherited Face Court High Bail is Upheld By Judge; New Mass Struggle Planned

By ED. ROBBIN

LOS ANGELES—Men, women and children—the disinherited—the dispossessed—shabbily dressed, down at heels, workmen in overalls, men on crutches—crowded the broad stone corridor on the sixteenth floor of the City Hall where 26 Workers' Alliance pickets were to appear.

The door to the court room was locked though it was fifteen minutes past two and the hearing had been set for two o'clock.

But these people have waited for years in relief offices. Once they waited singly with bent backs. Now they wait in groups with shoulders squared.

One grey headed old woman in a worn brown coat leans back against the wall and says: "They're just keeping us waiting in purpose. Well, I'm gonna 'I'm a technician," he says. An old man is telling about the run-around he is getting trying to obtain his pension.

Needed in Spain. A young fellow is talking to a lean blonde woman about going to Spain.

"I'm a technician," he says. "They haven't any use for here, I think I'll go."

The prisoners file down the corridor between cops. At their head is a beefy, pink-faced dick with a cigar in his mouth.

The boys nod and smile and say a few words to friends as they pass. Al Heltness, Workers' Alliance leader is in the center of the line. He waves to the crowd and calls a few people by name.

But there is room for only a couple of hundred people in the court room. The rest stand outside in the corridor.

The hearing is to determine whether bail of \$100 each is excessive.

Leo Gallagher, attorney for the ILL says it is.

One hundred dollars is like a million to these people, says Gallagher. You therefore defeat the intention of the law when you set bail so high that they cannot possibly obtain release.

"Lenience." The court has been lenient, maintains the prosecution. Any one of three of the counts on which the men are charged may entail six months in jail or \$500 fine.

What are the charges? The usual "blocking the sidewalk," "disturbing the peace," "illegally carrying placards." In other words they were arrested for picketing the relief office, for protesting against being sent to forced labor camps, against being forced into the cotton fields at peon wages, against being dropped off the relief rolls.

Discretion of the trial court does not appear to have been abused, rules Judge Edward T. Bishop, and the bail will therefore stand.

There are murmurs in the crowd as they file out of the court room.

"Wait till elections." "He gets \$9000 dollars a year." In the rear of the elevator is a well dressed, stout man. He

got on a floor above the hearing. These are the people who elected the president," he says contemptuously to the elevator man.

Millions More. Yes, these are the people who elected the president. These and millions more, millions "ill-housed, ill-clothed, ill-nourished."

On the wide facade of the City Hall Gallagher is already conferring with Larus McCormack of the ILL. What next? "We'll file a writ of mandate immediately, demanding that the trial be set forward. We'll call a mass meeting. We must tell the public."

German Dockers Shot for Mishap

PARIS—Six workers in the Deutsche Werke dock yards at Kiel, Germany, have been executed on the grounds that they were responsible for the mishap at the launching in December last year of the German battleship Gneissau.

The warship swung sideways when it left the slipway and crashed into a wharf. Altogether, says a press report received here, 28 workers and four foremen were arrested on charges of sabotage. The four foremen are among those executed.

When tried before the so-called "People's Court" at Kiel, the defendants declared that the damage done was due to the use of ersatz—substitute material.

Stop Wasting Water, M'Sheehy Urges S.F.

BOARD ASKED FOR REDUCED HOME RATES

Commission Ignores Small Users in Reductions on New Schedule

SAN FRANCISCO—Against a conspiracy of silence from colleagues who obviously preferred to talk of other things, Supervisor James B. McSheehy pleaded last week for action to enable San Francisco's 77,000 small water users to use millions of gallons of surplus water to raise trees and gardens.

Some 70 million gallons daily goes unused down the Tulumne River, McSheehy said, arguing for making a flat rate to small users based on a general 20 per cent reduction.

McSheehy vigorously attacked the Public Utilities Commission and the impression camouflaged by the widely advertised "reductions" which in reality are only for large consumers and for Peninsula communities.

In order to change the rates proposed by the Utilities Commission, the supervisors must reject them outright and force the Commission to make the alterations. Under a reactionary provision of the charter, the mayor-appointed commission's actions cannot be amended by the board.

McSheehy was only partially supported by Supervisor Uhl, who demanded a reduction in the service charge on meters from 70 to 50 cents monthly.

Supervisor George R. Reilly, ignoring the small consumer, urged that new cuts in rates be granted to wholesale users.

After a week's delay, the rate issue was scheduled to be settled by the board at its meeting Monday, December 27.

Director Resigns From Movement For Third Party

CRESCENT CITY — E. F. Benedict, in a letter to Al Sessions of Bakersfield, resigned as a director and member of the Progressive-Commonwealth Federation, saying "I cannot in good conscience lend support to a plan that seems certain of defeat and threatens the prospect of a united progressive fusion in the coming gubernatorial campaign."

Benedict, who is president of the Del Monte Newspaper Guild, announced he had registered in the Democratic Party as the "only logical vehicle for progressives and labor to use in 1938."

MEYERS HITS RACKETS OF DORE & BECK

"Protective Association" Attacked by Candidate for Seattle Office

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HITLER SMASHED

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THE PEOPLE'S WORLD 121 HAIGHT ST. SAN FRANCISCO

Director Resigns From Movement For Third Party

CRESCENT CITY — E. F. Benedict, in a letter to Al Sessions of Bakersfield, resigned as a director and member of the Progressive-Commonwealth Federation, saying "I cannot in good conscience lend support to a plan that seems certain of defeat and threatens the prospect of a united progressive fusion in the coming gubernatorial campaign."

Benedict, who is president of the Del Monte Newspaper Guild, announced he had registered in the Democratic Party as the "only logical vehicle for progressives and labor to use in 1938."

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Laborde Puts Finger On Fascist Reserves

Rich and Imperialists Back Fascists in New Drive to Make Mexico Another Spain

By HERMAN LABORDE
(General Secretary Communist Party of Mexico)

The central figure to whom the Mexican fascists look for leadership in concentrating their forces is the ex-Minister of Agriculture, Saturnino Sedillo. Sedillo, who was ousted by Cardenas, has a private army at his disposal and is the moving spirit of a ring smuggling arms from fascist arsenals abroad in Mexico.

The Mexican and foreign big land owners fear that if they are not able to unite the scattered fascist cliques their economic base in Mexico will be wiped out by the sweep of the national revolutionary program of Cardenas.

Previously, the "Golden Shirts," led by Nicholas Rodriguez, was the main fascist organization. Now an effort is being made, under the guidance of Sedillo and the Nazi Embassy in Mexico City, to combine the Golden Shirts with other reactionary nationalist groups, such as the so-called middle-class Confederation, the Nationalistic Youth, and a number of former bandit elements formerly known as "Christeros." The reactionary hierarchy of the Catholic Church lends itself readily to the fascist plotting.

A number of reactionary newspapers are carrying on a vituperative campaign against President Cardenas and the Communist Party. The campaign at times reached audacious heights. Openly they called for the murder of Cardenas and working class leaders. Lombardo Toledano, president of the Mexican Confederation of Labour, and myself were threatened with assassination.

In Mexico today these plotters are not entirely bereft of weapons. Some of the arms come from the United States. A good deal of it is shipped from Nazi Germany to Guatemala. Dictator Ubico of Guatemala co-operates with the fascist cabal.

The Nazis in Mexico have not confined all their activities to assisting Sedillo to centralize the fascist groupings. Hitler's agents have established a spy network that co-operates with the Italians, fascist-Spaniards and Japanese. This is directed against the United States also.

Big Business

There are in Mexico many rich Spaniards, big business men and merchants who are pro-Franco. They co-operate with the Nazi spy network. Their long residence in Mexico proves valuable to the international fascist espionage apparatus. The Nazis work through the two leading commercial firms, Bayer, the pharmaceutical concern, and Bocker, the big hardware importer. Besides, Hitler's agents have taught their Mexican allies to improve their demagogic and propaganda against Cardenas and American democracy.

One of the new stunts of the Mexican fascists is to try to establish a base for themselves in the South in the United States. Their agents are working to win allies among the lynch-inciting Southern landlords against the Cardenas Government and against the democratic forces in the United States.

The progressive nature of Cardenas policy, especially as it has developed in recent months, is startling even to one who saw its great achievements at first hand in Mexico.

Cardenas Record

He follows a definite national revolutionary policy. He is engaging in agrarian reform and in anti-imperialist measures of the widest consequences. Cardenas is granting land to peasants who heretofore were outside of the scope of the agrarian laws. He has established collectivization of the land besides establishing collective ownership.

A move that has not endeared him to the American backers of reaction and fascism has been the strenuous struggle against imperialism carried forward by President Cardenas. He has nationalized railroads, taking them out of the grasp of the Wall Street bondholders. He is moving for control of the Mexican people over the oil fields, electric plants, and industries.

President Cardenas stands for the open support of the Spanish people against all of the fascists. The foreign policy of the Mexican Government under Cardenas is anti-fascist, anti-imperialist and against intervention of the big powers. Besides supporting the Spanish people, Cardenas has come out wholeheartedly behind the Chinese in their magnificent and inspiring resistance to the Japanese aggressors.

People's Front

The People's Front movement in our country has its own characteristics. There is one big party which is in power, the Partido Nacional Revolucionario, the PNR. In itself it is the embryo of a People's Front. It is made up of a number of different organizations. Backing the Government of the PNR already is the CTM (Mexican Confederation of Labour) and the Communist Party, as well as the peasant organizations.

Up to the present, the PNR was not very active in the formation of a People's Front. Reaction was scattered. Cardenas, leader of the PNR, had the endorsement and support of all progressive and revolutionary political forces.

Reaction Bolder

Now the situation is changing. Reaction is getting bolder. It is necessary to speed the creation of a People's Front. But that can best be done through and within the PNR. Recently some substantial steps were taken towards this end. In the last election, the CTM and the Peasants' Confederation cooperated with the PNR in electing candidates to Parliament.

In the Mexican House of Representatives, a committee for the struggle against fascism has been organized. In the Senate, a committee to make contact with the people and to present their legislative demands has been formed.

All of these movements point to the maturing of a People's Front. At the next Congress of the PNR, to be held some time in 1938, no doubt the proposal will be made for the PNR taking the initiative in forming within itself the People's Front movement.

The Communist Party is taking a leading part in propagandizing and urging this road to the creation of the broadest and most powerful People's Front in Mexico, which would be the strongest reply to the fascist intrigues.

Spain Hero



BILL BAILEY

Popular member of the Marine Firemen, Oilers and Water-tenders Union of the Pacific who is now machine-gunning fascists with the Lincoln Brigade in Spain.

Negro Artist Votes in USSR

Star of 'Tom Sawyer' Finds Freedom At Last

By SENDER GARLIN

MOSCOW — The American Negro actor who played a stellar role in the recent Soviet film production of "Tom Sawyer," based on Mark Twain's famous novel, took part in a regular election for the first time in his life in the recent nation-wide Soviet election.

Wayland Rudd, 38, lived in the United States until three years ago, but never was allowed to exercise his constitutional right to vote.

Rudd is now studying to be a theatrical director in the Moscow State Institute of Theatrical Art. He was with the world-famous Meyerhold Theatre for several years, and has taken important roles in various Soviet films.

'Back Home' Recalled

Recalling the election days "back home," Rudd says:

"On those days snow crunched under my feet, banners and flags waved from the windows and balconies, children were sledding and skating in the streets, bands played and the buildings I passed were higher than those I pass here.

"But on those days my emotions, like the emotions of millions of others, were numbed. 'The house and building I passed were not mine—doors would have been slammed in my face had I dared to knock at them.

"On those election days children screamed and leered insults at me: 'Nigger! Nigger!'

"Sunday, when I walked to the Soviet polling place, my emotions were not dead.

"Children did not jeer and call me names. They smiled and left their sleds and skating to beg me to tell them if it were true that I rode on the back-end of street cars in the land from which I came.

"Not a single door I passed on election day here was closed to me. There were no signs at park entrances reading: 'Niggers and dogs prohibited.'

DELBOS RETURN DRAWS CRY FOR PEACE IN UNITY

French Diplomat Met by Thousands Asking for Democratic Unity

PARIS — Foreign Minister Yvon Delbos returning from his tour of France's Eastern Europe allies was met at the railroad station by a demonstration of many thousand persons shouting peace slogans, many calling for unity of democracies against fascism.

Delbos came from Prague, capital of Czechoslovakia, last step on his series of visits to nations forming France's "Little Entente," which French statesmen had feared were drifting away from their alliance under the pressure of the Berlin-Rome axis.

To the people who gathered at the station, Delbos said:

"I am very happy with my journey and happy to be able to bring back to the French people a reassurance of the fidelity of the Eastern nations in their high, traditional friendliness toward France."

He motored directly to the Foreign Office where he will spend several days preparing a report of his many political talks. The British Embassy announced that the British Foreign Minister, Anthony Eden was not coming to Paris. Hence, Britain will be informed of the results of Delbos' visits through the usual diplomatic channels.

Japan's Chief Army in China

Militarists Now Mobilizing the Second Million

SHANGHAI — The war in China is a tremendous strain on the country and is requiring unheard-of financial funds; already more than 2,500,000,000 yen have been allocated for the war.

According to information at hand, no less than 1,000,000 persons have been conscripted into the army while the mobilization of another 1,000,000 persons is now on foot. On the north front the Japanese Command has concentrated more than 300,000 troops; in the region of Shanghai more than 100,000 and throughout the whole of China (including Manchuria), approximately 1,000,000 troops.

All Japan's regular divisions, with the exception of two, have been transported to China. The operations in China are being carried out by the "cream of the Japanese Army"; also its chief technical forces are concentrated there.

The Japanese militarists see now that they committed a mistake in their main calculations and that the present war in China is not at all a "small" war.

Chinese Students Leave Books to Take Up Arms

HANKOW — The students of three Peiping universities have successfully made their way to Sianfu, capital of Shensi, former Soviet area for military training. The students at Weihsan University at a meeting decided to discontinue their studies and left for the front.

Groups of student propagandists are travelling through the South Shansi villages, explaining to the villagers the significance of the struggle against Japan. The Chinese Government National Defense Loan of 500 million dollars has already been oversubscribed by citizens of the country.

Porto Rico Labor Setup Decried by Investigator

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico — Piece work sewing in the home is done here with earnings as low as 25 to 35 cents weekly, according to an unofficial investigator of the National Labor Relations Board. The report also stated that Porto Rico, as a merchandise market, with her 1,800,000 inhabitants, was almost wholly undeveloped due chiefly to low purchasing power resulting from low wages.

PAUL ROBESON SINGS LONDON — Paul Robeson, famous Negro singer, sang during a demonstration for Spain held here last Sunday by the British Labor Party.

Mussolini Calls For Five Billion Lire War Budget

ROME — A huge war budget of 5 billion lire, or \$289,986,347 for the 1938 financial year was approved here by the fascist cabinet under the direction of Premier Mussolini.

Minister of Finance Thaon di Revel announced that in addition a budget "saving" for last year of more than one billion lire would be used to pay off the extraordinary expenditures "in perfecting our powerful war machine and in exploitation of the empire."

Thus the money saved by a curtailment of education, social services and internal improvements will be used to pay the debts incurred in the Ethiopian adventure and the present military operations in Spain.

CHURCH HEADS ASK SPAIN AID

Protestant Bishop Urges Help for Spanish Kids

LOS ANGELES — "Those responsible for taking the initiative in this humanitarian crusade for bringing Christmas to the little children of democratic Spain," is part of a message just received from a group of leading clergymen by the Motion Picture Artists Committee, sponsors of the Christmas drive.

The message is signed by Rev. Guy Emery Shipley, editor of "The Churchman"; Bishop Robert L. Paddock of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Oregon; Rev. Herman F. Reissig; Rev. John Paul Jones of the Congregational Church; Rev. William Spofford, editor of "The Witness"; Rev. Ralph E. Diffendorfer of the M. E. Board of Foreign Missions; Mr. D. J. Fleming, Union Theological Seminary.

William Green president of the AFL also sent his endorsement of the Christmas campaign undertaken by the Motion Picture Artists Committee for the children of democratic Spain.

In his telegram to Charles Page, secretary of the Committee, he stated: "I join with you in appealing to the generosity of all classes of people for contributions toward a Christmas fund to be used in supplying Christmas cheer to the children of war-torn Spain."

Ireland Recognizes Il Duce's Conquest

Government Calls Ethiopia a Colony Amid Protests

DUBLIN, Ireland — Against strong labor opposition, President Eamon de Valera stated last week that the Irish Free State now recognized the annexation of Ethiopia by Mussolini and that the new Irish Minister to Rome would be accredited to the King of Italy as King, and Emperor of Ethiopia.

William Norton, Labor leader vigorously opposed this aid to black shirt aggression, saying: "We are now lining up with those other States—mainly South American—who have recognized this greatest piece of international violence and injustice committed during the present century. It was not long ago that our President stood up at Geneva to condemn this outrageous violence and asked this Dial to pass an act imposing sanctions on Italy."

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DOCK WORKERS REFUSE JAPAN CONSIGNMENT

Southampton Transport Union's Action Spurs Boycott in Britain

LONDON — In a ringing blow against Japanese aggression, 2,570 Southampton dockers of the Transport and General Workers' Union refused to unload 200 tons of Japanese goods brought in by the Canadian Pacific boat Duchess of Richmond. The consignment was sent back across the Atlantic with each case carrying on it in blue stenciled lettering: THIS CARGO REFUSED BY SOUTHAMPTON DOCKERS.

The leadership of the British trade unions has already denounced Japanese aggression on innumerable occasions, but this is the first instance of workers' refusing to handle goods from Japan.

In an anxious statement to the press, the Japanese Embassy in London said: "We are watching every development in the situation. We have not yet taken any action, and the action we shall take depends on how matters develop in the next few days."

Dockers in all ports of the country were reported making preparations to demonstrate their support for the Southampton men.

Movement Spreads

The Communist Party distributed 15,000 leaflets in London alone to the dockers in the port of that city, headed: "Southampton dockers call to you," and pointing out that Southampton dockers, "by their direct action, have shown the way to the whole of our mighty Labor and Trade Union Movement to take its part in stemming the advance of fascist barbarity." More than 30,000 leaflets were distributed in other ports.

Inspired by the action of the Southampton dock workers, the Durham County Federation of Labor Parties, at a meeting the next day, passed a resolution calling on the British people to demonstrate their sympathy with the Chinese people by a vigorous boycott of Japanese goods.

BRITISH WAR BODY IN DRASTIC SHIFT

LONDON — The drastic changes in personnel of the powerful Army Council were defended in Parliament here from attacks of the old guard by War Minister Hore-Belisha. The changes replaced old-line army generals by younger men.

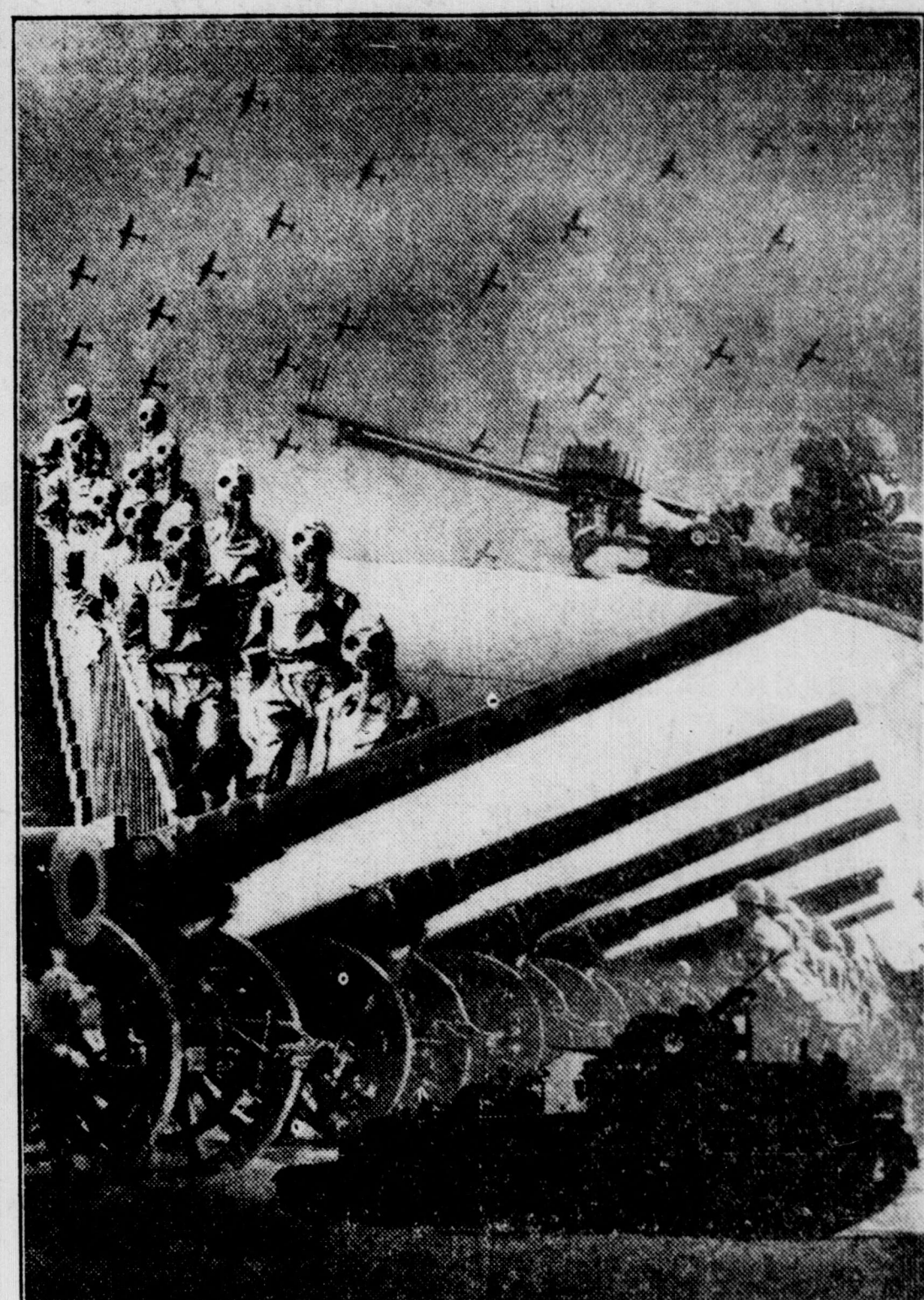
More fundamentally, however, the shifts are regarded as the triumph for more modern methods of warfare such as greater mechanization of the army. Involved in the change is the hope for some democratization in the army as demanded by progressive delegates to the recent Bournemouth Labor Party conference.

Panay Sunk by "Stray Bullets," New Japan Story

SHANGHAI — "Stray bullets" from Japanese craft might have struck the U. S. Gunboat Panay, the Japanese government admitted in Tokyo after the extreme fascist clique in the army had completely exonerated itself of blame in the Panay incident.

The original Japanese version admitted that the Panay was machine-gunned before it sank, but claimed this happened through a mistake. Following Harada's outright denial the official version was changed to the story that the machine guns were directed at a Chinese boat.

THIS IS WAR!



LOOMING over the horizon of every nation are these horrors that man has conceived, the voices that nations respect. With the struggles in Spain and China constantly stabbing at world peace, international tension is approaching that of 1914, and so acute is the situation that experts on international affairs hesitate to predict future developments.

The montage is from Photo-History, the picture magazine, which devotes the entire current issue to war and its causes.

Swiss Tories Aid Fascists In Arrests of Communists

ZURICH, Switzerland — Since the attempt of reactionaries to ban the Communist Party for the whole of Switzerland has failed for the present, conservatives and Right Radicals are joining the openly fascist elements in an attempt to ban the party district by district.

Already the Canton of Zurich and the Canton of Schwyz have enacted laws containing such a ban, although there is no party organization in the latter district.

With this attack, arrests of Communist Party leaders, begun last month, continue. Among those already arrested are the Communist National Councilor Bodenmann and Comrade Schwarz, the secretary of the Communist Party of the Canton of Zurich.

The reason given in the press for this action is that it had

FASCIST CRIMINALS

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia — The trial of the 12 associates of Rutha, the Henlein Nazi leader who committed suicide, opened here recently with charges of homosexuality at scout camps leveled against them.

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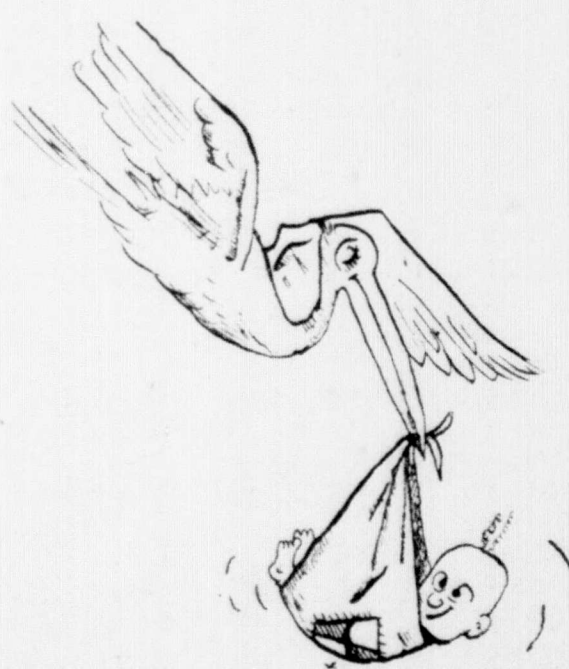
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Orgy of Indifference Ends With Congress Adjournment

DISASTER-LADEN clouds this week dropped lower over the great country that is the United States of America.

Deaf to the pleas for aid and hope from the forty million insecure families of America, the 75th Congress Wednesday voted its members \$250,000 railroad fare and adjourned.

After five weeks of speech-making and demagoguery, its sole achievement was the appropriation of the taxpayers' \$250,000.

In a sense, this appropriation of the people's funds was a deed consistent with the orgy of indifference to human needs which characterized this special session.

Summoned on the eve of a national emergency occasioned by a steep and rapid industrial decline, Congress faced the necessity of legislating—

1. Wage-hour regulations to reduce unemployment by shortening the work week and to stimulate industrial activity by increasing the incomes of consumers;

2. Measures to relieve the deplorable conditions of poor farmers and farm workers and to stabilize farm prices in line with the cost of production.

3. A housing program for eradicating slum areas, aiding small home-owners, and stimulating the lagging construction industries.

Need for this legislation was urged. Each week this urgency increases. The sit-down strike of big capital continues to cut wages and lay off workers, throwing thousands of wage earners daily into the swollen ranks of the jobless and driving the nation deeper into depression.

With this situation facing the people, the chosen representatives of the people rushed home for Christmas!

Well may the people mark down the names of those who led this rebellion against the New Deal and the few legislators who remained true to the people's trust.

Let them mark well those Democratic Senators and Congressmen who wanted to maintain slave labor in the South, those Tory Republicans of the North and the West who obeyed the orders of the National Association of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce in defiance of the twice-expressed mandate of the people.

Let the people remember that the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor worked hand in glove with these Tories to defeat the aspirations of the masses of American wage earners.

And when Congress meets in regular session in January, let an avalanche of ultimatums command these representatives to obey the people on peril of defeat when they stand for re-election in November.

The Yellow Stripe Through The Senatorial Frock Coat

OF ALL yellow stripes, those running down the backs of Senator O'Mahoney and certain other members of the Senate special committee investigating the Mooney case win the prize for being widest and most unsullied.

For 21 years Tom Mooney has been in jail and these gentlemen admitted their belief he was here through injustice.

Came Senator Ashurst of Arizona with a giant disclosure. Somewhere, it seemed, a committee favoring Mooney's release had used a reproduction of the Senate Judiciary Committee's letterhead on one of its appeals.

Had this anything to do with Mooney's guilt or innocence?

But with this excuse (sorry as it was, it was the only excuse available) Senator O'Mahoney immediately launched into an attack on the Mooney Committee and let it be understood that the resolution memorializing Governor Merriam for a pardon was out of the question.

The fact is that no one ever suspected O'Mahoney with any desire to free Mooney in the first place. But the American people overwhelmingly want him freed. If O'Mahoney let on that he did, it was clearly the result of this pressure.

Increase it! Let these Senators know that no one is taken in by their weaseling.

Douglas Verdict Against Labor

TRADE UNIONISTS and progressives were deeply shocked last week when a jury of six women and six men found the 24 Douglas aircraft strikers guilty of conspiracy to detain private property.

Arrived at despite the fact that not a shred of reliable evidence had been submitted to sustain it, the jury's verdict climaxed a 10-month drive of the District Attorney's office, backed by Harry Chandler and the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association, to put the Douglas strikers behind San Quentin bars.

Significantly enough, the jury's decision was reached the morning following a radio address by District Attorney Buron Fitts in which the law enforcement official called upon all judges, citizens, and police forces to end "labor racketeering" and "goon" squads.

Viewed from a narrow and purely legal aspect, the finding of the 24 workers guilty of conspiracy to detain private property creates a precedent which, if left unturned, is likely to set up insurmountable barriers to any future use of the sit-down strike as an effective weapon in workers' struggles. Unless the verdict is reversed by a court of appeals, any group of workers that plans such a strike could be found guilty of a felony and sentenced to the penitentiary.

Looked at from a broader angle, however, the result of the Douglas workers' trial assumes proportions that constitute a menace to the very foundations of organized labor. It is no secret that open shop interests in Southern California, and throughout the nation as a whole, are launching a gigantic drive on all fronts to crush labor and progressive movements.

Thus, the verdict of the Douglas strikers' trial jury becomes a welcome weapon in the hands of the open-shoppers. These interests have been waiting for such a decision—a decision that would set a precedent by which to make the sit-down strike illegal. Yet, it does more than this: for upon the basis of this decision, other decisions will be made until the enemies of organized labor reach their ultimate aim of having all strikes declared illegal.

California courts of law have many black marks against them. This latest one must be erased. Announcement has been made that the decision will be appealed. And around this appeal, all labor and progressive forces will rally.

Lower the Rates for Small S. F. Water Users

IF ANY San Francisco supervisor had a logical answer to Supervisor James B. McSheehy's appeal to let the San Francisco public use the surplus water from Hetch Hetchy, he failed to mention it.

Millions of gallons daily go unused down the Tuolumne River. Yet San Francisco's small home owners notoriously raise no gardens nor trees because they cannot afford the water.

Take out the meters, urges McSheehy. Establish a flat rate. The only excuse for putting in meters in the first place was to conserve water when it was scarce. Now the Public Utilities Commission, appointed by the mayor, is willing to grant lower rates to wholesale users and to sell a fraction of the surplus to the Peninsula communities at rates below those charged to San Francisco consumers.

Supervisor McSheehy is campaigning not only for the flat rate, but for basing that rate on a general 20 per cent decrease in rates for the 77,000 small users.

Instead of answering him, reactionary supervisors and the four daily papers of San Francisco virtually ignored the issue and harped only on the great virtue of lowering the rates for wholesale buyers.

This is a campaign that can be won, but only if it is carried to the public and made into a popular campaign. That would be clear even in the shabby efforts of the supervisors and the reactionary press to cover up the issue rather than to fight it openly.

The Western Worker congratulates Supervisor McSheehy on his efforts and urges the people of San Francisco to fill the supervisors' chambers to support him when the rate schedule of the Public Utilities Commission comes finally before the board on Monday, December 27.

Farewell To Screeno

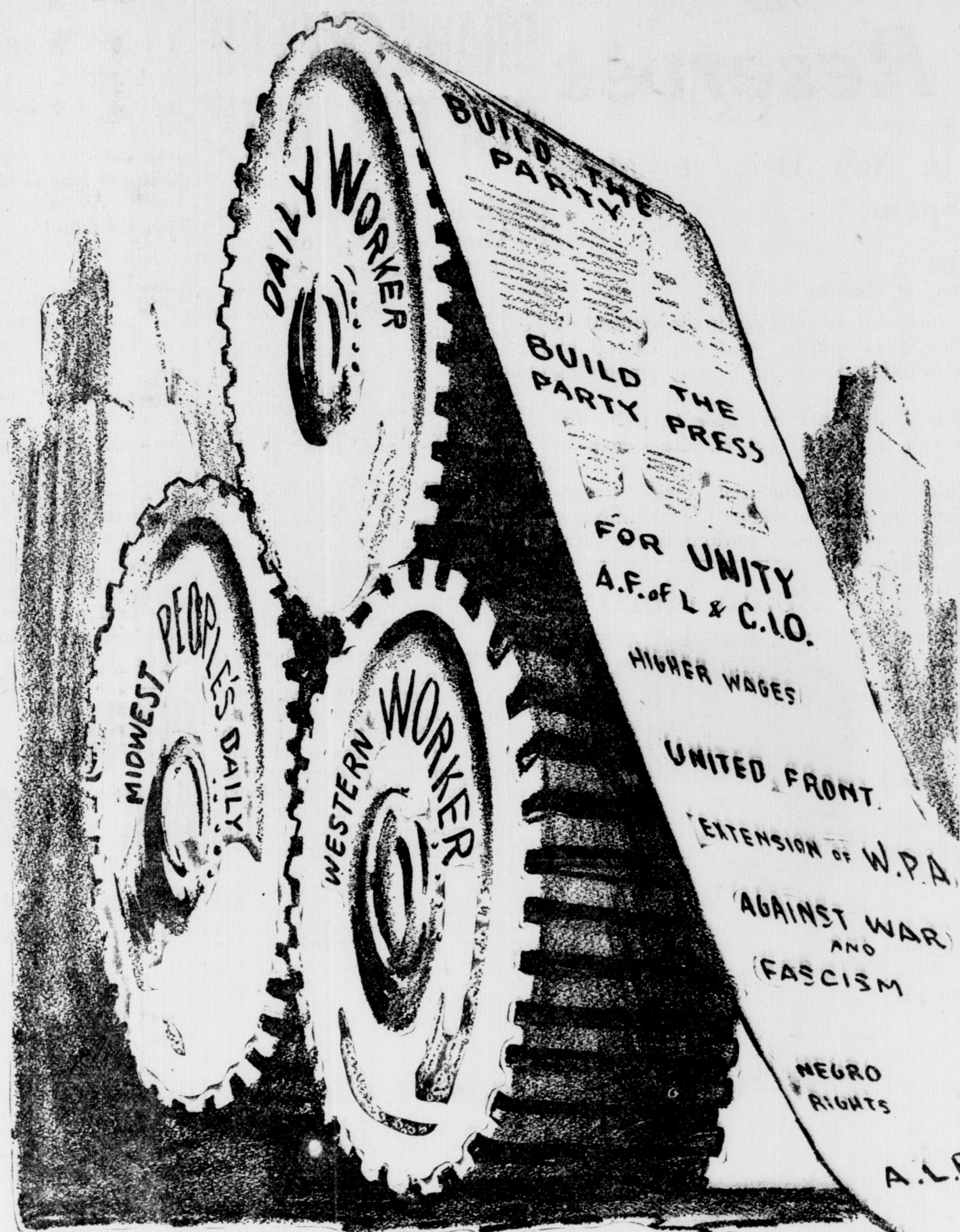
INVETERATE movie goers will be deprived of the eternal third billing at the lower priced citadels of cinema. No more shall "Screeno" or "Ten-o-Win" share a theatre marquee on an equal footing with Paul Muni or Ginger Rogers.

That is the sense of a decision from Attorney General U. S. Webb, ruling all these intermission diversions as illegal gambling.

But there is one matter that troubles us. Every time it has been our recurrent misfortune to see one of those movies that makes you mutter "stung again!" we explain it away with the fact that the attraction of Screeno has made palatable film fare unnecessary.

But now that Screeno will go, are bad movies far behind?

THE WORLD M



'COMMITTEE OF FORTY-THREE'... MODERN GREEKS BEARING GIFTS

By JOHN PIERPONT

NAPOLEON it was who first employed the language of peace as part of the strategy of war. He would order his troops to annihilate the enemy and simultaneously, on a pious note to the foe, expressing his desire for peace and offering to compromise "for the sake of the accord and harmony of Europe."

That's why labor views with alarm the recent invitation from San Francisco employers to union leaders to discuss with them the prospects of ending strikes and labor disputes. The game of war time diplomacy is not restricted to states in an international stadium. Labor well knows that protestations of peace from employers are usually accompanied by wage cuts, lay-offs, lock-outs, speed-up, the importation of hired thugs, labor injunctions, anti-picketing ordinances, and other devices of the open shop, legal and otherwise.

Especially at the present time is the bona fide nature of the employers' invitation to be doubted. There are many reasons to believe that this invitation is a typical peace note penned by the would-be Napoleons of the West Coast as a prelude to some fresh aggression against the people.

Let us consider these reasons, which may be enumerated as follows:

1. The identity of the interests which extend the invitation, under the signature of the "Committee of 43."
2. The present economic situation on the West Coast.
3. The political prospects of 1938.
4. The expiration of agreements between the employers and the Warehousemen's union.

Who Are Committee?

UNHAPPILY, the interests represented by the "Committee of 43" are not world famous for their observances of contracts, nor for their execution of "good intentions" toward labor, nor for an absorbing interest in the public's welfare.

To the contrary, in this committee one perceives the Bank of America with its tentacles reaching out through all the cities and towns of California, strangling the small farmer and home owner and business man, organizing and participating in the vigilante mobs which terrorize men and women who want nothing more than decent food, decent clothing and decent shelter.

Also, one sees there Herbert Fleishhacker's Anglo-California Bank and all the corporations to which it lends money. There, too, is the Pacific Gas & Electric Company, Pacific Telephone and Telegraph, Southern Pacific Railway, the cannery and packers, the manufacturers and publishers—in fact, the entire aggregation of interests which fabricate and direct such organizations as Southern Californians, Inc., the Industrial Association, the Water-front Employers' Association, the Associated Farmers, et cetera.

If one looks more closely, behind this aggregation of interests tower the formidable shadows of Standard Oil, Chase National

Bank, National City Bank, and the House of Morgan. One recognizes too the faces of Wall Street's Pacific Coast directors; among them, Frederick J. Koster, 1916 head of the Chamber of Commerce and organizer of the "Law and Order" Committee of vigilantes that terrified, beat, and jailed the waterfront workers in the strikes of 1916 and 1919; Roger Lapanam, American-Hawaiian Steamship Company executive, who shares with other employers the responsibility for the murder of two strikers in 1934; Herbert Fleishhacker, key man of the Rockefeller's in California, who was recently convicted of stealing money from the clients of his bank.

These are the gentlemen who now invite labor to sit at the conference table for the discussion of industrial peace and the public welfare. Hardly a prepossessing lot of peace apostles. Hardly the sort of public spirited citizens you and your family would expect to provide for you when the boss shuts down and your savings run out!

Economic Situation

INDEED, if the identity of the interests represented by these gentlemen is not sufficient to bedevil the prospects of bona fide agreement, the present situation manufactured by their interests supply another reason for suspicion.

What is this situation? It is an economic condition rapidly approaching the phase of depression. Its symptoms are to be found in the declining operations of steel mills, railroads, lumber, cement, food-stuffs, glass and textile industries, factories of all kinds. Its consequences are lay-offs, speed-ups, and wage cuts—in a word, the misery of millions of wage earners.

These interests of the Committee of 43 know full well the danger of the present situation. They know this so well because they are chiefly responsible for it. Whereas the people liked the New Deal and the CIO, the bankers and industrialists and ship owners did not.

Thereupon, these gentlemen—including those worthies who now wish to talk peace—brought themselves of a way to cultivate profit melons despite the New Deal and the growing strength of organized labor. They refused to invest their surplus funds. They let stocks drop to a record low. They cut wages, locked out workers, laid off thousands of their employees, raised the prices of their goods. In brief, they completely robbed the masses of the people of their purchasing power and brought on the present form of industrial paralysis that now has the Pacific Coast in its grip.

The Committee of 43 represents the forces that did this. It represents the slump makers, the people who sabotaged American recovery.

You've heard that no animal has quite so much courage as a cornered rat. Well, the Committee of 43 is precisely the sort of place commonly called a corner. Consequently, it's a fighting committee, an audacious committee, a war-making body intent on aggression and mindful of the strategy of Napoleon.

Political Prospects

THE third reason this Committee's investigation may not be as white as the paper it is written on lies in the present political situation in California. That situation is epitomized in the recent convention of Labor's Non-Partisan League, where delegates from organized labor and progressive groups unmistakably demonstrated that the people of California will not be easily deceived when the time for voting comes next year.

With the arrival of Labor's Non-Partisan League on the political scene of California, the possibility vanishes of utilizing the governmental machinery for the purpose of thrusting the burden of the slump onto the people. The Committee of 43 knows full well that if the League succeeds in rallying Californians to its platform, as it shows every indication of doing, gone will be the employers' freedom to lay off and lock out employees indiscriminately, to slash payrolls and install speed-up, to evade income taxes and force sales taxes through a hiring legislature, to employ thugs for breaking strikes and reward phony labor officials for breaking unions, to contract price-fixing agreements and hike-up the cost of living, to mobilize vigilante gangs for beating and murdering militant workers.

Therefore, to ensure profits for the employers, the League and its mainstay, the CIO unions in California, must be stopped. To California labor, by and large, this possibility for Tory maneuvers is not at all the dark deep secret it seems. And this is why the employers' offer to discuss means of ensuring industrial peace has a counterfeit clink.

Warehouse Agreements

FINALLY, since the Warehousemen are one of the chief backbones of the CIO in California, and hence, of the Non-Partisan League, and since the agreements with this union will expire shortly, what better opportunity is there for beginning the offensive against labor than now? And what better way of channelizing public opinion away from the CIO and the Non-Partisan League than that of tying up industry through the warehouses and saddling the blame on the warehousemen and their brothers, the longshoremen?

This exposition of a possible maneuver may not be fair to the Committee of 43. Dissociated from the other three aspects of the situation, the mere expiration of contracts between the Warehousemen and their employers affords no basis whatever for suspecting the Committee's motives. But in combination with these other sides of the question, the date of expiration may well be looked upon as the soothsayer regarded the Ides of March—a day of ill omen.

Let labor beware, therefore, when it sits at the conference table with the employers. Let it remember that though Napoleon is long since dead, his tricks are the heritage of posterity, and particularly that part of posterity which is most predatory, ruthless, and vicious—the Committee of 43.

by Ellis

As We See It

By BILL SCHNEIDERMAN
Calif. State Secretary, Communist Party

What We Owe to Spain

AFTER THE capitalist press has been deliberately giving the impression for the past few weeks that the war in Spain is over, and that Franco needs just a few more "mopping-up" exercises in order to seal the doom of the Loyalists, the latter were so unkind as to confound them with a smashing victory at Teruel, where the fascist forces were crushed and cut to pieces. This magnificent victory by the Spanish People's Army has doomed Franco's boastful plans to launch the "final offensive" to cut off Madrid and fasten his bloody grip on all of Spain.

All the friends of democracy and peace are rejoicing at this significant turn in favor of the Loyalist cause. It will give new hope and enthusiasm to the widespread movement of active support to the Spanish People's Front in the form of funds, medical supplies and equipment, and mass agitation against aiding the fascist interventionists.

When American history of the 20th century is written, one of its most glorious pages will be that of the new LaFayettes, the International Brigade and its American Battalion, fighting to save Spain and the whole world from fascism. Whose heart is not stirred at the record of indomitable courage and self-sacrifice with which these boys have covered themselves with glory in the front-line trenches at Madrid, at Brunete at Jarama, at Guadalajara, and the Aragon front!

A Great Task

EVERY liberty-loving American should be proud of them. We are proud of each and every one of them. We are proud of the 200 Californians in their midst. And now that some of them are returning, relieved after almost one year of incessant fighting, we will be just as proud of those new volunteers who go to take their places.

To the Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Battalion falls a great and honorable task: to raise the necessary funds to furnish the American boys with those small necessities which will serve as a link between America and Spain, a bond of brotherhood, a symbol of solidarity across the seas; and also to rehabilitate those who are returning, some wounded; to surround them with comradeship and care, as a tribute to their bravery.

That is the least that we can do. But we must do more. We must arouse the American people to make the slogan "quarantine the Aggressor" a reality, to stop the international fascist bandits in Spain and China. And we must speed the building of the American People's Front, before it is too late.

LETTERS

Move to Repeal Sales Tax Grows in Los Angeles

Editor Western Worker:

If you thumb through the want ads of the Los Angeles papers you will not fail to notice one item that is there every day. It says:

"Man wanted for political contact work."

You and forty other men answer the ad and find out that it is the business of collecting signatures for the repeal of the sales tax.

Well, it seems as if some people actually answered the ad and are working hard collecting signatures because the Secretary of State, Frank C. Jordan, received 104,000 signatures from Los Angeles County calling for the repeal of the tax and the personal property levy on automobiles.

The petitioners are asking for a measure on the 1938 ballot. It also provides for a \$1000 exemption in the assessed valuation of land occupied as home property.

To place such a measure on the ballot 186,373 signatures are required from the State electorate.

—J. S., Los Angeles.

Let Readers Draw Conclusions Urges Correspondent

Editor Western Worker:

Ridicule can break a man quicker in this country than any amount of scandal or graft recorded against him could ever do.

The politician, the labor "leader" who is shown up as a fool, through the use of ridicule or sarcasm is soon mistrusted and laughed out of office.

It seems to me that when the facts of a case are written in such a manner, the people will remember them longer. Of course there is always the danger that too much stress is put on the ridiculous side of the case, but if it were handled with care I think the facts would be remembered as well as the style in which they are presented.

A good damn becomes ineffective when used too often, likewise too much ranting will lose its effectiveness. Consider Mr. Hearst, his continued red baiting gains him nothing but dropped circulation. "He's just raving," many say, "ignore him, it's a habit of his."

This above is just an idea, it may be all wrong and inadvisable to apply it to such a paper as the Western Worker, but I believe that the masses are intelligent and can draw conclusions for themselves.

Sincerely yours,

—J. O., Pasadena.

A Subscriber's Pledge

Editor Western Worker:

Thanks for the good news. The lifetime subscription I won is almost compensation for not having the honor of choosing the winning name.

I'll try to be your best subscriber in all the ways a subscriber can help a working class paper.

Comradely, —J. M., Los Angeles.

SEEING RED with MIKE QUIN

MEDICAL SCIENCE in its early gropings was closer kin to witchcraft than reason. The difference between surgery and butchery was not very great at the beginning. Ancient physicians sought to effect cures with boiled bug juices, magic charms and incantations. More sensible scientists were frequently persecuted into their graves because their theories offended the prejudice of the day. Dr. Louis Pasteur was the victim of ridicule and torment because his brilliant discoveries were not comprehensible to the saw-bones and snobs of that period.

Economics has had a similar career, but has progressed far more slowly.

Most plagues and epidemics are controllable today. Depressions are not. In the field of economics we are still back in the days of sassafras tea and asafidif bags.

Surely poverty and unemployment cause as much harm as any disease. An unpaid bill is just as undesirable as a pain in the neck. The lack of food to eat is just as serious as a faulty digestion.

The average man does not want to study economics any more than he wants to study medicine. A treatise on diseases of the liver soon puts the layman to sleep. By the same token, Karl Marx' CAPITAL is not easy reading.

IN CAPITAL, Marx treats the science of economics with the same precise, meticulous care that scientists have used in analyzing the human anatomy. Production of goods, buying and selling, values, markets, relations—every detail of the commercial and industrial world as we know it today is gone into with extreme thoroughness.

A surgeon cannot prattle into the bowels of a patient with a scalpel equipped only with a vague idea of what he is trying to do. He must have precise and exact knowledge. He must know what every cut will reveal and be ready with the knowledge of how to cope with each problem he encounters.

And so, anyone proposing to cure the economic ills of society must first understand the whole anatomy of society. Marx knew this, and his service to the working class of the world was to provide that precise working knowledge of society.

Roughly, Capitalism is that state of affairs where a small minority of wealthy men own the means of production and operate them for private profit. This state of affairs is very desirable to them. Any proposition that would alter it is extremely detestable to them.

MARX quickly came to the conclusion that in order to cure depressions and poverty, this state of affairs would have to be changed. Men of wealth the world over were roused to apoplectic fury at such a suggestion. They rewarded him with all the abuse reactionary saw-bones showered upon Pasteur when he proclaimed the existence of germs. Only in this case it was all the more distressing because they themselves were the germs which Marx uncovered with his microscope.

These capitalists had (and still have) their own economists who can be compared with the feathered medicine men of savage tribes. Their approach to the subject is not how to locate and cure the ills of society, but how to make the Capitalist System work. If the capitalist system will not work, they reason, then humanity is doomed because no other system is thinkable under the sun. These are the men who daily inform you in newspapers and magazines that depressions are natural, inevitable and necessary to the functioning of society. (By "society" they mean Capitalism.)

You don't have to read Marx to know that this is nonsense. But you do have to read Marx to know precisely why it is nonsense.

I'm getting near the end of my space here and had better pull up short. Believe it or not, this was intended to be a review of "ENGELS ON CAPITAL," a book recently brought out by International Publishers.

BEHIND the SCREEN with DON BLACKWELL

HOLLYWOOD.

COULD ANYONE object to giving and to stricken Spanish children? Could anyone object to contributing a toy or a piece of old clothing so that some Spanish kid lying shattered from an Italian bomb might have a bit of joy on Christmas? Or another one homeless for the same reason, might have something to put around a shivering and emaciated body? Incredible that anyone could, you say. But such an individual exists. His name is Fred Niblo, Jr., son of the former director of silent films.

And what, in effect, are Signor Niblo's objections? 1. Don't help feed these starving children, because in so doing you're being a dupe of the "reds." 2. Don't give old clothes to these shivering kids, because General Franco, "The Butcher of Burgos," said that the devoutly religious people of Spain burned churches. 3. Permit these innocent babies to die of their shrapnel wounds, because if you aid them, you are helping to make for an "atheist Christmas."

For one who professes to be very religious, this is a strange interpretation of Christianity and displays a method of reasoning that should make Hitler and Mussolini blush with envy.

OUT OF THE GRABAG: Of the ten best pictures of the year picked by Hearst editors, six had social themes. "The Good Earth," "The Life of Emil Zola," "Lost Horizon," "Dead End," "Stage Door," and "Conquest" . . . Motion Picture Producers were forced to turn down request of Harry Chandler, publisher of corrupt and reactionary L. A. Times, for financial and moral aid against labor unions . . . The open-shoppers are planning a chest of \$1,000,000 to break labor unions . . . Despite record profits for every major studio, United Artists is the only one so far to declare bonus for employees . . . plan to distribute \$60,000 . . . Metro is considering previewing its historical short, "The Life of Dr. Carver," in the heart of the L. A. Negro district . . . The film depicts the life of Dr. Carver, famous Negro scientist . . . Two New York drama critics, one from Florida and the other from Kentucky, objected to inviting Butterfly McQueen, Negro actress to the Critics' Circle party, held Dec. 19th . . . One of the so-called gentlemen held that the presence of Miss McQueen would be undignified . . . George Kaufman's royalties from his current shows are netting him between \$10,000 and \$15,000 weekly . . . Marian Davies registered at the Ritz Towers in N. Y. with 40 bags and trunks . . .

German films are being unofficially boycotted in France and Belgium . . . In the 24 first run houses in Paris during the first week in December, only one German picture was shown compared to 13 French and 10 American . . . Joel Park, most exclusive lingerie shop in Beverly Hills, has stocked cotton and jisle hose at the request of its fashionable patrons who won't purchase Japanese silk . . . Italy has banned showing of "Lost Horizon" . . . Brazil has vetoed "The Road Back." "They Gave Him a Gun" and "Sabotage" . . . Lillian Hellman, member of the Board of the Screen Writers Guild, is Time Magazine's new drama critic . . .

Movie Stars Boycott

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Movie Stars Boycott

Japanese Silk

Dr. Eloesser Pays his Tribute To the Medical Heroes of Spain

Famous San Francisco Surgeon Inspects Front Line Hospitals

so that you come away not discouraged, but as hopeful and eager as they.

What They Need

I saw the commanding surgeon of the Central Area, probably the best organized one, and he told me that his most pressing needs were: 1). Money, to be used in the construction of hospitals, corresponding in position to our more advanced base hospitals or less advanced evacuation hospitals. I saw one such, in charge of a young Spanish captain, about 30 miles from Madrid. Excellently organized, patients well cared for, a little shy on surgical instruments, but with a truck garden that provided greens for the hospital, a forge, a carpenter shop.

In fact, the more I see what wonders the Spanish have done in the face of unbelievable difficulties in the acquisition of materials and trained personnel, and how they have put youngsters but a year or two removed from the benches of a medical school, into positions of the greatest responsibility and trust, the more full I am of admiration and humility.

There are the courage, the directness, the dominating flashes of clear sightedness that inspired Cortes when in his march from the sea to Vera Cruz he led his handful of men into the heart of a martial empire; and their tenacity and faith that made him regain it when a weakened bureaucrat in front of him and a blundering soldier at his rear lit his bloodless victory into flame and forced him into a four years' war against overwhelming odds. There are the simplicity and trust of Balboa, when the great caravan of silken-clad grantees came sailing in and surprised him, working on the Darien beach in his jeans, the trust that made him, after he had planted the flag of Spain in the waters of the Pacific, return to Darien and be strangled to death by his sweet, silken father-in-law for his pains.

On to Jarama

This is a bit of rhapsodical interlude, for the ladies. Further, Major Estelles told me he needed: 2). Light chassis, such as Ford, or light International, rather than ambulances. He himself was well enough equipped with heavy ambulances, and he is prepared to provide light ambulance bodies for his chassis here. 3). Vitamin products, either drugs or dry vegetables, tomato or grape fruit juice, etc., in tins, cod-liver oil, etc. 4). Cutting surgical instruments, scalpels. I think his wants might easily be supplied. The use of scalpels of the Bard-Parker type has become so general in the United States, that I think there is scarcely a hospital that would not give or sell for very little, scalpels of the old type that lie on their shelves and would be very useful here. From Madrid I went to the Jarama front. There wasn't much doing. I spent the night in a front-line dressing station, used also as Staff Headquarters for the Division, and had an interesting conversation with the Division Surgeon who has interested himself especially in medicine and sanitation of the

front line and medical school of the company. He has written a text book about to appear. He stressed the need for medical text books and especially reviewing journals for medical men at the front.

After leaving Madrid I visited Villa Paz and a number of other hospitals of that area. I stayed at Villa Paz over night. There was a meeting at which Busch introduced Barsky to the newer comrades who didn't know him. It would have done you good to see his reception. A hundred or more of personnel, doctors, nurses, scullery maids, people from the town all gathered in a low, long, common dining room which was formerly the stable of the Infanta's villa. (The hospital is, as you know, housed in her villa). A great stone watering trough in one corner of the room and a piano next to it.

Anxious to Help

Busch made a speech in which he said that deficiencies of the electric current had caused much hardship, both in lighting of the wards and X-ray, and that this might be remedied at a cost of 15,000 pesetas by running in an extra line from another source. Immediately he had finished, a half dozen men made speeches proposing various ways of raising the money among themselves, contributing half of their wages, etc. The representative of the village committee said he'd give half of all money paid out to him for work done. Their eagerness to give help made one ashamed of the apathy at home.

The next morning I spent visiting several hospitals of the Tarazon area in company with Busch and Barsky, leaving that

THE RADIO DIAL

Christmas day brings a bevy of star aerial attractions. The headline, of course, is the return to America of Arturo Toscanini, world-famous conductor, who makes his bow tomorrow at 7 p.m. with the star NBC Symphony Orchestra. This major attraction may be heard over both Red and Blue networks—in fact, if you're one of those rare individuals who doesn't care for symphony music, you'll have a hard time dodging this program. Christmas likewise brings, as usual every Saturday, the Metropolitan Opera Company (11 a.m. KGO or KECA).

An unusual feature will be the 8:30 a.m. broadcast of Christmas as seen through the eyes of men in the governments migratory camp at Shafter California. KPO and KFI.

Other stellar attractions through Tuesday:

Saturday

6 p.m., Headlines of 1937: dramatization of the ten biggest stories of the year as selected by Associated Press, KPO or KFI.

9 p.m., Believe It or Not, with the ubiquitous Mr. Ripley, NBC Red.

10:30 p.m., Jimmy Grier and Orchestra (dance), NBC Blue.

Sunday

9 a.m., Denver String Quartet, NBC Red.

11 a.m., Magic Key of RCA, symphony directed by Frank Black, KGO, KEX or KECA.

12:30 p.m., Senator Fishback and Professor Figsbottom, KGO or KECA.

2 p.m., Metropolitan Opera Auditions, NBC Blue.

5 p.m., General Motors Concert, Erno Rapee directing, KGO or KECA.

5 p.m., Chase and Sanborn Program, Nelson Eddie plus Charlie McCarthy and Don Ameche, KPO, KFI and KGW.

8:30 p.m., American Album of Familiar Music, Frank Munn, Jean Dickinson and the Amsterdam Chorus, NBC Red.

8:30 p.m., The Inimitable Mr. Jack Benny, with Mary Livingston, Kenny Baker, Andy Devine, et al., KPO, KFI, KOMO and KGW.

Monday

6 p.m., Philadelphia Orchestra, NBC Blue.

7:30 p.m., Burns and Allen, NBC Red.

8:30 p.m., Voice of Firestone, Alfred Wallenstein conducting, KGO, KFI or KGW.

9:15 p.m., Stanford University, "Political Post-Mortem of 1937," KGO or KECA.

Tuesday

8:30 p.m., Jimmy Dorsey (dance), NBC Blue.

9:45 p.m., The University Explorer, "From Seven Campuses," NBC Blue.

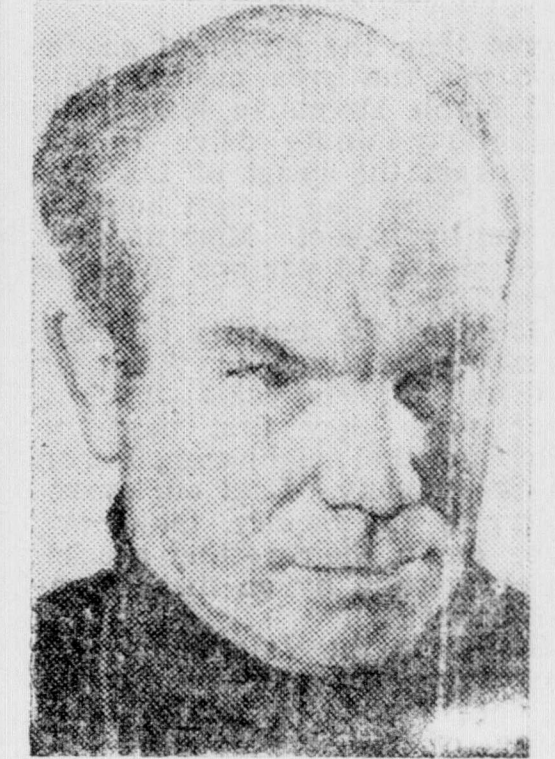
STEEL DROPS FURTHER

NEW YORK—Steel operations were scheduled to start 23.5 per cent of capacity this week, the lowest rate since October 15, 1934, the American Iron and Steel Institute stated.

Heroes of Spain

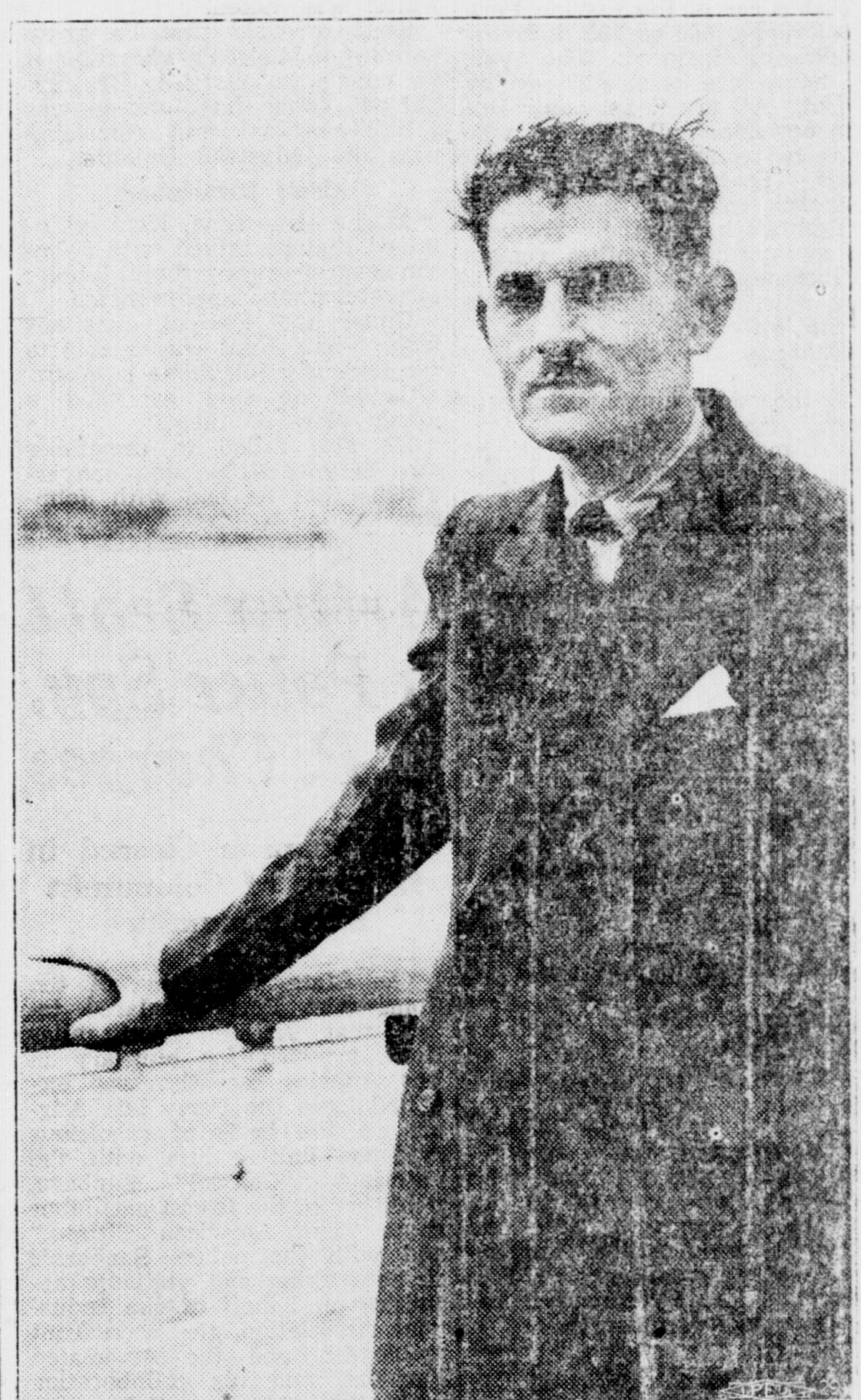


DR. LEO ELOESSER



DR. NORMAN BETHUNE

(A cable received by the Medical Bureau on December 13 from Dr. Irving Busch, states that Dr. Eloesser is still making the necessary military contacts relative to the establishment of the West Coast Hospital Unit. According to his latest plans, this may be a mobile unit working immediately behind the front lines. Dr. Eloesser stresses the urgent need of funds for equipment and personnel.)



DR. EDWARD BARSKY

ABOVE are three famous surgeons from three scattered sections of the American continent, whose bravery and initiative in Spain has won them admiration throughout the world. Dr. Eloesser comes from San Francisco. Dr. Bethune from Montreal, Canada, and is the world's greatest authority on blood transfusion. Dr. Barsky is from New York.

Comfort's Paintings Show A Need of Social Insight

LOS ANGELES—The Art Gallery of the 20th Century Bookshop, 652 N. Western Avenue, is featuring a one man show by the California artist, Tyrone Comfort, until January 1.

The twelve canvases that make up the show reveal clearly that Tyrone Comfort is an accomplished artist—in the sense that he has mastered the technical aspects of drawing and painting. But they also show that the artist has not developed a rational understanding of the world about him, of the forces that are at work in society today. Instead, he is overwhelmed by the chaos, the misery and suffering he sees about him, and can only add his voice in a clamor of protest.

This is most clearly seen in a picture called "Modern Madonna." This oil shows a baby, being suckled by a robot, which is walking on the skeletons of those whom it has crushed. Here the artist records the fact that we are being corrupted and debased by a machine civilization based in order to feed one human being must kill thousands of others. This is as far as Tyrone Comfort can go. He can observe and paint the essential stupidity and brutality

—John Stark.

JAPANESE RAID HOMES

HANKOW—The Japanese authorities in Shanghai have begun a series of wholesale raids on private houses in the so-called "safety zone" set up in the captured city, it was reported here.

NO HOLDS BARRED

By LEFTY

ALONG with Santa Claus and the pea-soup fog over San Francisco, December brings another annual symptom of the increasing lunacy among newspaper men.

December is "wind-up month"—all scribes worthy of their bread and oleo are expected to do a round-up yarn on the events of the year. This is an amusement as varied as the legs of the chorines in the Kearney street burlesque—there are the Ten Best Stories of the Year, The Eleven Best Football Players of the Season, The Ten Most Notable Sports Figures of the Year, The Man of the Year, The Woman of the Year, The Five Leading Chorus Girls From Little Rock, etc., etc.—but all on a par when it comes to monotony.

Lefty had glibly thought that this little bed-time pastime had about reached its limits, until he was unfortunate enough to read the latest discovery of the fertile craniums employed by the Associated Press. They have compiled the Ten Leading Come-Backs of the Year.

Names Washouts

It won't stop Lefty, though. Lashed to a frenzy of inventiveness, he cracks through with his Ten Leading Wash-outs of the Year. (Copyrights for this feature are pending, so you Associated Press wisenheimers take notice.)

Number 1 spot, by unanimous acclaim of Lefty's staff of caviar-picking experts goes to Mr. Anthony Eden of Great Britain, who, by muzzling the will of the British people and by slipping in and out of diplomat back doors in jig-time step, he managed to stick a basketful of knives into the peace and progress of the world.

Number two: Senor Francisco Franco, who a year ago declared he would have his morning coffee in the Puerto del Sol, Madrid; to Lefty's over-taxing imagination this ranks as the Empty Boast of the Year.

Number three: Alfred M. Landon, who has in the short space of a year washed himself further out than the roadbed of the Johnstown Highway after a memorable flood.

Number four: Harry Lunberg, the Swedish Nightingale, who in a year has fallen from progressive labor leader to a page boy for Messrs. Van Lear and Beck.

Number five: Bill Green, who could profitably be replaced by the "leader" of the AFL by one of the intelligent German podogs trained by the Aid-to-Blind Institute.

Trotzky to Hearst

Number six: Leon Trotsky, who from acting as knife-thruster in the anti-Soviet circus, sunk to the job of chief bar for the hootchy-cootchy dance the fascist carnival.

Number seven: Neville Chamberlain, who does not rate higher on the list because no noble ever expected anything of him, the British public to swallow Hitler's ersatz foreign policy.

Number eight: Getulio Vargas for pledging Brazil to a "denocratic alliance" with the United States with one hand while making sure with the other that there wouldn't be enough democracy left in Brazil to allow the District of Columbia.

Number nine: The Duke of Windsor, for attempting to play hockey with the Nazis and staging an America slumping party under the auspices of that good old "slammer," Charles Bedaux.

Number ten: W. R. Hearst, for reasons best known to the general public.

'FAMILY FESTIVAL' HEADS L. A. EVENTS

LOS ANGELES—The International Workers Order will hold a "Family Festival," rich in color and entertainment, at the Sons of Herman Hall, 25th and Main Streets, February 13.

Topping off a program packed with enjoyment, the day-long affair will feature a basketball game between the crack IWO team and a worthy opponent.

The Junior and Youth Sections are to play a lively part in the entertainment which is to include presentations by English, Hungarian, Jewish, Russian, Ukrainian and Croatian groups.

The IWO has extended invitations to all trade unionists and friends of labor to attend the day of festivity. Special rebate tickets may be obtained at 257 So. Spring Street, room 333.

SAN FRANCISCO

CLAY Fillmore at Clay St. San Francisco. Evenings and Sunday, 40c. Week Day Mats, 35c. OPENS DEC. 25th SAT.

Greatest Film Ever Made in the Soviet Union

"PETER THE FIRST"

Based on the novel by Alexei Tolstoy. Same Day and Date. Grand International Theatre, Los Angeles; Esquire Theatre in Hollywood; Montlake Theatre in Seattle.

Houses Unfit for Humans Found in Seven Slum Areas

L. A. Auditing Official Exposes Scandalous Conditions in Poor Districts; Proposes Pressure on Merriam

By BOB HALDEN
LOS ANGELES—"20 per cent of the houses in Los Angeles are unfit for human habitation!" "33 1-3 per cent of them have no inside toilets!" These statements, made last week by Robert H. Parker of the County Auditor's department, give only a fleeting glimpse into how thousands upon thousands of families in this southland city are living.

In charge of properties deeded to the State for tax delinquencies, Parker has ample opportunity to know the poverty and misery that form huge blotches upon this city's face. As a result of his visits to these bits of land that have been deeded to the State, Parker has learned "that definite slum areas exist in Los Angeles."

- Seven of these "definite slum areas," he named. They are:
1. Sawtelle: to the southwest of the Soldiers' Home.
 2. Santa Monica: west of Cloverfield Boulevard between Colorado and Pico Boulevards.
 3. The largest area of all in Los Angeles city proper, between Firestone Boulevard and 120th Street and between Alameda and Central Avenues.
 4. The "100" block on Utah street, north of East First Street.
 5. Montebello: at Vale and Maple streets.
 6. "Jim Town": north of Whittier Boulevard and just west of Guirado street.
 7. The Elysian Park police pistol range.

All these areas, in common, have high degrees of juvenile delinquency, low health standards, Parker said. "Statistics show that in almost all cases, outlines of juvenile delinquency concentration areas coincide with outlines of poor housing areas," he declared. "Dis-ease and crime follow along."

All Houses Leak
Houses in slum districts are one, two, and three room shacks built of 1 inch by 12 inch planks, often with no windows, seldom with an indoor toilet, usually with no inside running water. Wind and rain meet little resistance here, for "all these houses leak," the county official declared. "Insulation against the cold and wind is attempted by nailing corrugated cardboard over the inside of the walls. In many of the houses, bare earth is the only floor."

Single units in these slum areas aren't used by a single man, or by a couple. Average number of tenants to a room is five. Many two-room houses have as many as ten and twelve persons living in them. In one Santa Monica house, 10 feet by 16 feet, with a 3 foot by 3 foot toilet nailed on one corner, 18 persons are living. Fruit pickers—these tenants work part of the year, struggle along on State aid the rest.

On East 29th street, in Los Angeles city, a four-family flat has 16 families living in it. Four to 10 people live in one and two-room apartments. The house has a community bath, no water in the rooms, only four toilets to serve 16 families. Rent in this house is \$16 a month per room. \$3.50 per week. No company town was ever

KENT-SCOTT GETS TANGLED ON THE STAND

Frame-up Witness Has Memory Lapses When Pressed for Details

LOS ANGELES—Denying a defense request for the dismissal of charges against Tom S. Johnson, CIO official and circulation manager of the Industrial Unionist, at a preliminary hearing before the Beverly Hills City Court, Judge Charles Griffin set the date of the trial for Wednesday, January 5, in Superior Court.

The dismissal request came after an hour and a half of cross-examination by Defense Attorney Al Wirin of the state's "star" witness, Arthur Kent, self-confessed "Robin Hood."

Repeated questioning of the witness by Wirin disclosed that Kent knew practically nothing of the whereabouts of Johnson, nor the way he earned a living. Kent, speaking with a slight German "r" accent, told of having met Johnson and of having discussed the possibilities of robbing Mrs. H. F. Wilson's home.

Intimacy Without Knowledge
Prior to Kent's appearance on the stand, Mrs. Wilson had testified that she had never seen Johnson before. Yet, according to Kent's testimony, Johnson had information as to when the family would not be home and other intimate details about the condition of the home.

According to Kent, Johnson acted as lookout while he made the robbery. A jewel box, containing rings, earrings, and a gold watch was taken. Kent revealed that he knew nothing of Johnson's whereabouts or where he worked. He also did not know that Johnson was a CIO official and connected with the Industrial Unionist.

Can't Remember
At the same time, Kent maintained that he talked with Johnson several times in hotel lobbies after telephone appointments. Under the fire of questions from Wirin, Kent was unable to recollect any telephone numbers, although he said he "had a whole slew of them." He also failed to remember any definite dates, and conversations that he had with Johnson.

Arthur Scott A Police Spy, C. P. Charges

Tom Johnson Cleared in Opinion of Communist State Committee

The State Committee of the Communist Party declared today that Arthur Scott, alias Kent, arrested for burglary in Los Angeles recently, was expelled from the Party last August on the basis of suspicious evidence linking him with the notorious "Colonel" Sanborn, publisher of the fascist anti-labor sheet "The American Citizen," and with the police, Sanborn's strikebreaking and vigilante activities on behalf of the Industrial Association, the waterfront employers, and the Associated Farmers, and his collaboration with the Subversive Activities Committee of the American Legion, are well-known in California.

The Party statement cleared Tom Johnson of any connection with Scott, and declared that although Johnson is not a member of the Communist Party, his record in the labor movement leaves no doubt of his integrity, honesty, and loyalty to the working class movement. The Party fully supports the campaign for the defense of Johnson. "The crude attempt of Scott to frame Johnson and link his own dirty work with the Communist Party and the CIO is the work of a despicable stool-pigeon, who is a contemptible tool of more sinister interests which have worked unceasingly to discredit the Communist Party and the whole labor movement."

"It is no surprise that the notorious Aaron Sapiro who has been disbarred in N. Y. Federal Courts should climax his long and unsavory career by becoming the defense attorney of a rat of the first order."

LOS ANGELES

REMEMBER... "ICOR" New Year's Ball and Floor Show at the SHRINE AUDITORIUM New Year's Eve, Friday, December 31 Nat Young's Union Band Eats and Drinks Admission Only 50 Cents

Here's How It's Done in Los Angeles



PAUL CLINE (left) Los Angeles County Organizer of the Communist Party, "starts the ball rolling" as he turns in a charter sub for THE PEOPLE'S WORLD to Sam Cherniak, county circulation drive manager.

BOARD OKAYS L. A. Eager For 'Daily' BRAND HOTEL FITTS' STOOGES AWARD UNFAIR

Minority Defeats Request for Armored Car

LOS ANGELES—Ignoring charges that District Attorney Buron Fitts is usurping the office of sheriff, the Board of Supervisors last week approved by a three to two vote the "gang busting" squad which the prosecutor claims is needed to rid the city of gangsters.

Fitts went before the Board in order to receive permission to get a \$1000 armored car for his new gang. Ignoring the regular procedure of presenting his demands before the Department of Budget and Research, Fitts rushed them directly to the Board. Among his "requests" were the hiring of a \$300 a month detective, three \$9 a day detectives, one \$6 a day investigator and the special assignment of one of his \$500 a month deputies. These requests were not debated to any great extent, but part of the Board, John Anson Ford and Herbert Legg, strenuously protested the spending of another thousand dollars for a car.

Question Fitts
Ford and Legg asked Fitts why he didn't co-operate with the sheriff in the formation of the "gang busting" and criticized him for usurping the latter's office.

"The District Attorney is properly a prosecuting officer while the sheriff is the law enforcement officer. There has been duplication. Mr. Fitts, you are building a policing unit while your duties are prosecution," said Legg.

The board finally compromised by granting Fitts a used car. At the same time, Supervisor Legg made it clear that all the Ballyhoo about gangsterism in Los Angeles was "poppycock."

"There is no excuse for the exaggerated and ridiculous stories about gangster invasion of Los Angeles. This sort of publicity certainly isn't helping Los Angeles," he exclaimed.

Labor Spy Is Deputy
It is Fitts' plan to create a new office of Deputy District Attorney who will work closely with the "gang busters." He said that the new prosecutor had not been chosen yet.

As it stands now, the gang is composed of nine special deputies, among them, their new "ace" Tom Diamond, specialist in labor spying and former member of the Pinkerton spy agency.

According to Fitts, Diamond has been imported from the East particularly to identify eastern gangsters operating here now.

Fitts in defending his unit claimed that it had justified itself already by its work against the cleaners' and dyers' racket. Questioned in regard to what Fitts meant by his statement labor leaders of the cleaners and dyers didn't know what he was talking about.

Cline Declares He Will "Set Pace" for Subs

LOS ANGELES—Full realization of the need here for a daily people's paper was voiced by Paul Cline, Los Angeles County secretary of the Communist Party, as the circulation drive to launch the daily People's World gathered momentum last week. "If ever we, in Los Angeles, felt the need for a daily paper we feel it now," Cline declared. "What with the drive against the organized trade union movement under the smoke screen of 'davebeckism'—using the anti-picketing ordinance as a spearhead; with the dime novel 'Robin Hood' story of Arthur Kent which the Hearst press is using to slander and attack the Communist Party; with the attacks on the unemployed; the arrest of 26 pickets—all of these gangling up in one week—it is impossible to effectively react to these issues without a daily paper: a paper that must reach a minimum of eight to ten thousand people in Los Angeles in the very first period of its existence."

To Set Pace
With an enviable record behind him from the last subscription drive, Cline has announced that he is "to set the pace" in the present daily People's World sub drive.

Already, following the county membership meeting last Thursday, more than 300 charter subs have been handed in to the county drive committee.

Fulfillment of Los Angeles drive quota was promised by Cline. "Speaking on behalf of the County Committee of the Party in Los Angeles, I want to say we are determined to reach and surpass our circulation drive quota of 3,000 charter and 3,000 trial subscribers."

"We are looking forward to seeing the first issue of the People's World with the keenest anticipation."

More Hearst Holdings Go to Mexico Peasants
EL PASO—The Mexican Government took provisional possession of approximately 10,000 acres of William Randolph Hearst's half million acre ranch in the state of Chihuahua early this month.

San Francisco

LENIN MEMORIAL RALLY Sunday, Jan. 23 8 p.m. EAGLES HALL Golden Gate Avenue "Three Songs About Lenin" Soviet Sound Film PAUL CLINE L. A. Sec., Communist Party Guest Speaker Admission 50c No Collection AUSPICES TRADE UNION LENIN MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Physician Bares Anti-Negro Stand Of L. A. Hospitals

Medical Graduate Must Get Permission From Supervisors Before Admission To Internship

LOS ANGELES—Though Negro taxpayers in this city pay a big share of the costs of maintaining the General Hospital, a Negro medical graduate stands a slim chance of getting on as an interne at that institution.

Carl Dent, a graduate of the Colledge of Medical Evangelists, discovered this last week as he applied for admission to the hospital as an interne. Despite the fact that he stood 19th in a list of 250 students who took the interne examination recently, Dent has been refused a job.

Needs "Permission"
Only an order from the Board of Supervisors can get him into the hospital, he was told by Doctor P. Berman, medical director. "I am perfectly willing to admit you if you get an order from the Board of Supervisors that you must do all the work just the same as a white interne," Berman said.

Conditions for Dent's securing the job, as laid down by Doctor Berman, relates back to 12 years ago when the first and last Negro interne was admitted to the hospital. At that time, Doctor John M. Robinson, a high ranking graduate from the University of Southern California, obtained a position as interne only upon signing a statement that he would handle none but Negro patients.

Discrimination
Typical "Jim Crow" conditions were instituted for Robinson during his internship. He was forced to sleep in separate quarters, eat by himself, and to handle only a few of the cases that came into the hospital.

Dent has made appeals to Supervisors John Anson Ford and Gordon L. McDonough. So far, neither of the two public officials has taken any action in the matter. Berman used the example of Robinson as a basis for refusing Dent's application. According to the medical director, the conditions under which Robinson served prevented him from receiving full benefit from his service.

Secretary Slips
"I don't want any interne who can't do all the work," he told Dent. Though Doctor Berman could not be contacted by the Western Worker, the medical director's secretary was vigorous in denying that Dent's rejection was in any way a reflection upon the hospital administration. She emphatically stated that the administration did not believe in discriminating against Negroes.

"But, we have so many southern internes here, you know," she explained foolishly. "Doctor Dent is such a fine person," she went on, "and it would be so unfair to him to have him here."

"And then also, we don't have the necessary accommodations for him." In his position, Doctor Berman has the authority to arbitrarily reject two persons who may qualify for the post in the examination. Under this ruling, Dent's only appeal is to the Board of Supervisors.

Now Gov. Martin Is 'Investigating' His Own Election
PORTLAND, Ore.—Apparently Governor Charles H. Martin is becoming dissatisfied with his own collective bargaining election, which he held in the Inman-Poulsen Lumber Mill here after attacking the National Labor Relations Board, which had certified the CIO Intl. Woodworkers as collective bargaining agency.

Martin said he was going to "investigate" a complaint by local AFL officials that the NLRB had "exerted influence" in his election, which went 2 to 1 for CIO. "The charges lack definiteness and certainty," said Martin, "but are of such a grave character that I am going to look into the matter."

Ciples preceding the award.
The statement was signed by Margaret Werth, Local 48; Carl Helbig, Local 30; Tom Nickola, Local 41; Joseph Marino, Local 283; Rene Battaglini, Local 44.

The long strike last summer was ended with admission of the issues to the arbitration board.

San Francisco
SAVE WAY CLEANERS, 783 Haight St., 2216 Fillmore. Quality Service. We meet all competitive prices. Small extra charge for pick up and delivery service. HE. 4578. FI 2513.

H. ROJAS—Auto top and trimming, curtains and cushions made and repaired. 2720 23rd St., Near Potrero.

THE FOX Barber and Jewelry Shop, 10th and Market. 1372 Market St.

LENNER'S real home cooking. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, short orders. Give us a trial, you'll come back. 2 Otis St., corner Mission, 12th and Van Ness Ave. South.

HAIGHT TAILOR, 1458 HAIGHT ST. Men's and women's tailoring. Long years of experience. Also cleaning and dyeing. Free call and delivery service. Give us a ring. HEmlack 0414.

Cat'n Fiddle, 1015 Fillmore St. Lunches, sandwiches, giant milk shakes. Special: Ice cream, bricks 25c a quart, all flavors. Union house. Give us a trial.

MATTRESSES RENOVATED—\$1.50. For restful sleep Phone UN. 7475. Dependable Mattress Co., 271 Van Ness Ave. So.

Oakland
Family Cleaners and Laundry, Suits, Dresses and Coats, 50c; shirts 12 1/2c. Call and deliver free. 100% union. Telephone OLYmpic 1320.

WHERE TO GO IN CALIFORNIA LIST YOUR PARTIES, AFFAIRS, MEETINGS 15c a line cash with copy

ATTENTION, AFFAIR COMMITTEES! Place the dates of your affairs with Western Worker Co-ordination Committee to avoid duplication.

Affairs for the Daily "Western"

San Francisco
3-DAY FESTIVAL & BAZAAR. Fri., Dec. 31, Sat. and Sun., Jan. 1 and 2. 1212 Haight St. All sorts of articles at bargain prices. Pageants, movie, restaurant. Dance on New Year's Eve. Proceeds for Daily Western Worker.

Other Affairs
Los Angeles
Celebrate New Year's Eve Fri., Dec. 31, with East Side Branch of the American League Against War and Fascism. 544 No. Brittan St.

CLASSIFIED
Patronize Western Worker advertisers

San Francisco
Advertising salesmen to represent Daily People's World. Commission basis. Contact Noel Whitcomb, 583 Market St. EXbrook 1602.

Unemployed Are Organizing Local in Tuolumne County

TUOLUMNE'S JOBLESS GET ORGANIZED

Workers Alliance Local Is
Going Into Action on
Grievance Cases

By a Worker Correspondent
JAMESTOWN, Tuolumne County—I have just returned from a Workers Alliance meeting in Sonoma. The workers are flocking into the Alliance by scores, and labor is definitely on the march in Tuolumne County. The Alliance now has 130 members and more are joining every meeting. That seems small but in this county it is significant, indeed.

Grievance Body to Act

Brother Busby asked that his rating be changed, stating he had taken the matter up with his foreman, who had promised to have it changed on two different occasions. The matter was referred to a grievance committee of President Colbert and two other brothers.

Another matter was the firing of one of our sewing project members, Mrs. Hoffman, due to her recent marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman are both unemployed. Mr. Hoffman has been unable to secure a WPA work order so far. The matter was referred to the grievance committee. Several women on the project are married, but Mrs. Hoffman was told she could not work if she was married.

\$5 Per Month

Attention was called to a case in a Cherokee of an aged woman, named Susie Jim, who is on a starvation pension, \$5 per month, from the government. When interviewed, she was living in a shack of one room, with her clothes in tatters, weaving a basket, which she could complete in a week and sell for \$2.50.

Toothless and 95 years old, she stated naively that the pension was not enough and she wished she could get some clothes.

The Indians are supposed to be under the paternal care of their chief, Fuller, who struts around in Indian regalia on Rodeo Day in Sonoma. When interviewed, he stated he took orders from Supervisor Hodge. Fuller, himself, is on a pension, and among the Indians he is cordially detested for his tie-up with Hodge and neglect of Indian affairs.

The grievance committee was instructed to inquire why the woman was neglected.

No Help to Indians

There is some non-denominational preacher who goes to the Indians and holds church meetings. Instead of bettering, he has worsened the condition of the Cherokees.

This preacher begs funds in Sonoma and Tuolumne to carry on his evangelistic work, but after giving him a few dimes, the public forgets the condition of the Indians.

Another Indian woman, Carmelita Ralph, was fired off the sewing project after working there three years. Suffering with rheumatism, she was first denied aid by Supervisor Hodge. After the matter had been taken up by the Alliance, Hodge stated the hospital and clinic are open to her, but she does not want to go to the hospital, as she does not feel that ill.

Denied Pension

One woman who prayed, as a little girl, with Mrs. Ralph, is herself 67 years old. Mrs. Ralph stated her wrong age when she was married, as she did not know her right age, but this woman was approximately the same age. The authorities are going by her marriage certificate and refuse to give her the old age pension she is entitled to.

She has four children and her clothes are also in tatters, and she owes Dr. Reed \$200 in medical treatment. Her case will be taken up by the grievance committee.

Warned Against Fascism

Her husband testified he formerly worked on the same project with Brother Hoffman but was given only two or three days' work a week.

Brother Rogers spoke on the Non-Partisan League meeting January 16. The response was enthusiastic, and I think we are at last launched on a program that will rid us of some political bloodsuckers.

Executive Order 108 was read, guaranteeing the right of collective bargaining. The order is 13 months old but still not posted on the bulletin board, which it specifically states shall be done.

Stewards Demand

The job stewards were instructed to demand of their foremen that the order be posted. Anything minimal to the workers has been most zealously posted, but anything which favored them has been scrupulously suppressed by the relief authorities in Tuolumne County.

Modern Cossacks Obey the Order of Modern Czar



UNION MEMBERS being ousted from the ferry house in Jersey City, N. J., where they distributed leaflets defying Mayor Frank (I Am the Law) Hague. Thirteen were arrested and 100 deported from this notoriously anti-union, open shop town.

Fumes Kill Worker at Poultry Co.

Ammonia Is Fatal When
Unsafe Refrigeration
Pipes Collapse

By a Poultry Worker

SAN FRANCISCO—Ammonia fumes on December 19 killed Eugene Marconi, 24 member of the Poultry Workers Union, as he lay injured and trapped beneath the wreckage of frozen pipes in the refrigerator room of the Joseph Buchwald Co., on McAllister St.

After over an hour, Marconi's body was dragged from the chamber of death by firemen who had labored all that time to get to him, but were unable to do so before because of the deadly ammonia fumes.

Helper Overcome

Edward Figone, 29, his helper, was attempting to save Marconi, and was overcome by the fumes and had to be sent to the hospital.

Unsafe condition of the piping was the cause of the accident, according to several of the workers in the plant.

One of the pipes was struck, releasing a stream of ammonia. Soon after, the refrigerator system collapsed entirely, proving undoubtedly how unsafe it had been for many years, because the bosses wanted to save a few dollars.

Sacramento Carpenters Score Bill Hutcheson

By a Carpenter

SACRAMENTO—The Carpenters Local Union 586 endorsed a resolution demanding that President Hutcheson immediately reverse his stand on Amendments 11 and 12 to the Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners constitution and by-laws, and declare them defeated.

Evidence has been produced that shows the votes were juggled by the tabulating committee to put over these red-baiting amendments.

Carpenters—sign the petition in your locals!

Wealthy Grower Sees World, Sees Nothing

By a Worker Correspondent

YUMA, Ariz. — According to a report in our local paper, Mrs. L. M. McLaren, one of Yuma Valley's largest lettuce and cantaloupe growers, has returned home from a 60,000 mile trip.

Mr. McLaren and wife visited 35 countries, and reports the world to be hungry, and despairing with poverty, and many people fearful of war.

Couldn't Say Why

In the report, not even between the lines, could we find a hint of why the world is in such a deplorable condition.

Now, I began to see the countries that our "flying friend" visited are letting the capitalists run their governments, and I see the capitalist system under any climate or any religion is a failure.

Mr. McLaren thinks that as bad as conditions are in the United States, there is no better nation in the world, perhaps not, for the capitalists.

He reports he did not visit the Soviet Union, the country where the workers get benefit of the machinery, where no one makes a living off the work of others, the country where the cost of living goes down and wages up each year. This coming year the living costs are to

Oroville People Liked Zola Film

By a Worker Correspondent

OROVILLE, Butte County—I attended the show in which Paul Muni took the part of Emile Zola. The theater had a good attendance. The people who saw the show were very much interested, and no wonder. Tom Mooney was mentioned in the local press "Voice of the People."

People here are very conscientious, no doubt about it, for I watch the people when such plays as Mountain Justice, Black Legion and Emile Zola come here to the theaters. I see their actions and reactions.

And the stars who take part in the plays make themselves very popular with the people.

Profit Wrung From Cotton Pickers

By an Alaska Canner

SAN FRANCISCO—A record-breaking crop for 1937 was estimated recently by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, at nearly 19,000,000 bales.

The lowest market quotations were in the late fall, when cotton depreciated due to poor quality on account of unfavorable weather, and it was \$7.76 per bale — 19,000,000 multiplied by \$7.76 equals \$13,242,000,000.

Yet the average cotton picker did not get more than a dollar a day and lived in a tumbledown shack that in some cases looked more like a chicken coop.

Many workers, after coming from a hard day's work, had to cook on "stoves" that were merely holes dug in the ground, with two or more iron rods over the aperture to hold the cooking pot. In some cases they slept on piles of straw, covered with blankets.

Nazi Christmas Gift

BERLIN—As a Christmas present to the already underfed German population, the Nazi government decreed that starting December 25, the butter ration for each person would be reduced 15 per cent from that consumed in October of this year.

Carpenters—sign the petition

in your locals!

Sacramento CIO Body to Aid Jobless

Votes to Cooperate With
Workers Alliance in
Seeking Relief

By a Worker Correspondent
SACRAMENTO — The CIO Sacramento Industrial Council carried on further the struggle against unemployment by deciding that all the unemployed committees of its affiliated unions should cooperate with the Workers Alliance. It was decided that the CIO committees would meet with Miss White, local SRA director, at the same time the Workers Alliance does to take up grievances.

The council also sent a resolution to Harry Hopkins asking for more WPA appropriations.

Continuing the fight for the reinstatement of Rosa Babuso, a social worker who was recently discharged without cause by Miss White, the council sent a resolution to Mrs. Noe protesting and demanding her reinstatement.

Rap Yolo Supervisor
The council also sent a resolution to a Yolo County supervisor, Mr. Merkely, who called on the constable and vigilantes to prevent the CIO representative, Mr. McAntosh of the Steel Workers Union, from representing the men who were applying for relief.

The Industrial Council gained more strength when the local union of the Bargemen (of the Intl. Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union), affiliated at the last meeting.

It is true that we are progressing, though so slow it is hardly noticeable. This progress is due to the militancy of several groups, namely the Euclid and the Haas Bros. Candy Co. workers, but we must break away from the phonies who are not for organization of the unemployed, who are content in having small groups organized as "unions" as long as they continue to make their fat salaries.

No candy maker can deny that these officials did nothing but sabotage and hinder organization of the candy makers in San Francisco. Bear in mind the National Biscuit case!

The only way out is to fight for rank and file control of our organization, and next election time, to elect capable and trustworthy officials from our own ranks.

He was right. When we contacted the Labor Commission and the district attorney, they told us we had to sue him, and as we couldn't eat or go anywhere unless we had some money, we had to go back and accept the checks.

We were just poor workers. The boss was one of the richest men in Napa and Yountville, so there was no justice for us.

Instead the law plotted with this rich exploiter to force us, among whom were some school children between 6 and 13 years

of age, to slave from sun-up to sun-down, working for the slavish wage of less than \$1.50 per day. Among the workers who suffered in this case was the family of Brother Palacio of the Alaska Cannery Workers' Union.

Progressive issues, we must recruit the best and most active people in the progressive movement of Sacramento.

Much discussion took place on how to build the party and to rally the progressives for the coming elections. General agreement among the comrades was that the meeting was a milestone and turning point in Sacramento.

Plans for getting 250 charter subscriptions and 250 trial subs for the People's World, were adopted.

Comrade Nora Konkin, one of the Sacramento Criminal Syndicalism defendants, recently freed from prison, was unanimously elected chairman of the session.

A constitution and by-laws committee was also set up to draw up a proposed set of by-laws for this section.

Another important point discussed was the necessity for recruiting. Morgan stated:

"We are a small party in comparison to the influence we have. To be a real force for rallying the people of this city in the coming elections around

progressive issues, we must recruit the best and most active people in the progressive movement of Sacramento.

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Non-Partisan League Progressing in Sonoma

BAKERS' CZARS STIFLED UNION ORGANIZATION

Refused for Years to Help
Candy Workers in Nat'l
Biscuit Co. Plant

By a Candy Maker
SAN FRANCISCO—For about 15 years, perhaps more, the Confectionery & Bakery Workers Union has been in existence in San Francisco. The National Biscuit Co. has operated with members of this union for about that long.

The National Biscuit building is operated by the same employers as two different factories. Three fourths of the building is, and has been operated as a biscuit factory, one-fourth as a candy factory.

"Under Their Noses!"
The three-fourths of the building has been "organized" for 15 years or more, yet the reactionary leaders of this AFL union have at no time contacted or attempted to organize the candy workers, even when these workers were right under their noses and under the same roof!

Only when a small group began to organize the workers, did these union fakers step forward and come out to "save" the candy workers from the "alien reds."

Finally, when they had misguided the workers to their side, they left them stranded and forgot them. One such dirty trick by these fakers took place not long ago when we held meetings in the Spanish Societies Hall, at Powell and Broadway; so many candy makers remember it yet.

"Leaders" Foster Disunity
In the last attempt to organize ourselves, we have almost been successful. I say "almost" because we are a little better than a company-controlled local because these same rats who betrayed us once, are still our leaders.

I say this because we candy workers are not, in most cases, permitted to meet in mass; that is, each factory meets separately most of the time, and up until very recently we have gotten very little backing from these leaders. All they have been at tempting, and in most cases successfully, is creating much confusion and disunity among the candy workers.

Seek Rank and File Control
It is true that we are progressing, though so slow it is hardly noticeable. This progress is due to the militancy of several groups, namely the Euclid and the Haas Bros. Candy Co. workers, but we must break away from the phonies who are not for organization of the unemployed, who are content in having small groups organized as "unions" as long as they continue to make their fat salaries.

No candy maker can deny that these officials did nothing but sabotage and hinder organization of the candy makers in San Francisco. Bear in mind the National Biscuit case!

The only way out is to fight for rank and file control of our organization, and next election time, to elect capable and trustworthy officials from our own ranks.

He was right. When we contacted the Labor Commission and the district attorney, they told us we had to sue him, and as we couldn't eat or go anywhere unless we had some money, we had to go back and accept the checks.

We were just poor workers. The boss was one of the richest men in Napa and Yountville, so there was no justice for us.

Instead the law plotted with this rich exploiter to force us, among whom were some school children between 6 and 13 years

of age, to slave from sun-up to sun-down, working for the slavish wage of less than \$1.50 per day. Among the workers who suffered in this case was the family of Brother Palacio of the Alaska Cannery Workers' Union.

Progressive issues, we must recruit the best and most active people in the progressive movement of Sacramento.

Much discussion took place on how to build the party and to rally the progressives for the coming elections. General agreement among the comrades was that the meeting was a milestone and turning point in Sacramento.

Plans for getting 250 charter subscriptions and 250 trial subs for the People's World, were adopted.

Comrade Nora Konkin, one of the Sacramento Criminal Syndicalism defendants, recently freed from prison, was unanimously elected chairman of the session.

A constitution and by-laws committee was also set up to draw up a proposed set of by-laws for this section.

Another important point discussed was the necessity for recruiting. Morgan stated:

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S. F. Hotel Robs Man of Suit Case

Cops Refuse to Help Alaska Cannery
Worker Get Back His Property

By An Alaska Canner

SAN FRANCISCO—A recent happening to an Alaska cannery worker, Peter San Nicholas, has once again reminded me of the fact that under our present system of government there is no such thing as equality and justice for all, as our constitution tells us.

Brother San Nicholas has for the past two months roomed at the Alph Hotel, where he always paid his rent—but because he fed two unemployed seamen (denied relief by the authorities) in his room, he was told to get out.

Suit Case Denied Him

When he did so, the landlady held his suit case with all his clothes and other necessities, and told him that it would be returned when he paid \$5. When he asked why the \$5, she accused him of stealing two blankets, but the truth is, no one to his knowledge has stolen any blankets and she hinted once that she had to collect for the extra gas used by Brother Peter to cook for the seamen.

On another case this brother gave this landlady a package of valuable papers for safe keeping. A few days later when he asked for it, he had to give her \$1 before she returned it to him.

For days this brother tried to induce this landlady to give him his suit case. She obstinately refused, so he had to go to the police department and ask for a warrant or a citation. The police told him this was unnecessary and the Warrant Department gave him a note to go over to the hotel and get his suitcase.

Cops Wouldn't Aid

Again she refused to give it up and the police department because he is just merely a worker.

This case is going to be put in the hands of the I.L.D. and I have no doubt it will result in a speedy decision in favor of Brother San Nicholas.

This case reminds me of another case. Several years ago I applied for a prune picking job from one of the richest men in the township of Yountville. We were told to "go ahead and work."

After slaving for a week or so from sun-up to sun-down, we realized we could not even average \$1.50 per day, so we decided to quit after he refused to pay us more.

Another Case

The boss did not say a word when we told him we wanted our pay. He just wrote out the checks. When we saw the checks we saw he was paying us only half of what we had coming and objected.

He said: "When anybody who works for me quits before the job is done, I always pay him only half of his earnings."

We refused the check and said we were going to Napa and see the law and the Labor Commission. He laughed and said: "Go any place and see anybody you want. You'll find out that you'll have to come after this check as it is."

No Justice

He was right. When we contacted the Labor Commission and the district attorney, they told us we had to sue him, and as we couldn't eat or go anywhere unless we had some money, we had to go back and accept the checks.

We were just poor workers. The boss was one of the richest men in Napa and Yountville, so there was no justice for us.

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Alaska Cannery Worker Is Gypped By Hotel Operator

MAP POLITICAL ACTION PLANS AT SANTA ROSA

Political Unity Committee
Also to Cooperate With
Labor's League

By a Farmer

SANTA ROSA, Sonoma County—A group of 15 people, who had been working as a provisional committee for Labor's Non-Partisan League, met

LaFollette Report Charges 2500 Employers Use Spies

Coast Firms Tied in With Espionage Web

Pinkertons Active in Longshoremen's Union, Says Report; U. S. Action Against Labor Sies Is Urged

WASHINGTON—Some 2500 employers use labor spies to combat union organization, an "almost universal practice" in American industry, stated the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee in reporting its investigations back to Congress.

Widespread use of espionage agents against West Coast unions was revealed in the report, which stated:

Pinkertons on Coast

"On the West Coast the Pinkerton Detective Agency was paying the membership dues and assessments of four spies in the Warehousemen's Union, one in the shipping Clerks Union, two in the Veneer Workers Union, one in the Marine Cooks & Stewards Union, two in the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Union, two in the Intl. Longshoremen's Assn., one in the Machinists, two in the Bottle Blowers Union, one in the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, two in the Can Workers Union, one in the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen and a number in miscellaneous unions up and down the Pacific Coast."

The LaFollette Committee said its "known census" revealed 3871 active spies during 1933 to 1936, and the "census is far from complete."

The report said approximately one-third, or 100, of the Pinkerton spies were officials of unions, and one a vice president of an international union.

Committee Flays Spies

"Spies are members of unions in name only," said the report. "Their oath to support and uphold the union is meaningless. They reveal union secrets; they steal union records; they aid in blacklisting their own fellows. They incite to untimely strikes, they precipitate violence. Their allegiance is to the detective agencies and their clients, not to the unions."

The committee recommended that the government eradicate the spy system in industry in order to protect the rights guaranteed under the U. S. Constitution.

"Government... must overcome this spying practice which faces the average American workers or the spy and his reports... will destroy every vestige of right which for 150 years we have thought our Constitution guarantees the average individual."

Citing the reasons given by employers and detective agencies for use of labor spies, such as "protecting industry against radicalism and communism" and "improving relations between employers and workers or 'human engineering,'" the committee declared:

"Reasons" Not Valid

"These 'reasons' were of so little merit that after examination by the committee they were repudiated by the same officials who advanced them."

Senator LaFollette (Prog., Wis.) and Senator Elbert Thomas (D., Utah) formed the committee.

The Industrial Assn. of San Francisco, and the Industrial Assn. of Seattle were named as employers of labor spies.

The report further states: "The committee was impressed with the overwhelming power inherent in the size and wealth of these corporations opposed to the individual worker who is spied on."

Giant Corporations

"Thus Pinkerton's largest single industrial client was the General Motors Corp., a billion-dollar corporation with a gross income of almost a billion and a half dollars."

"In the period January, 1934, through July, 1936, General Motors paid \$994,855.68 to detective agencies for spy services."

The committee said expenditures of "certain selected industrial firms or corporations for labor espionage, industrial munitions, strikebreaking or plant protection, etc.," totaled approximately nine million dollars from 1933 to 1936.

Among the firms listed as employing labor spies were:

Users of Stoolpigeons

General Motors, Chrysler, Bethlehem Steel, Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., Warner Bros. Studio, Pennsylvania Railroad, General Electric Co., American Can Co., National Biscuit Co., American Cyanamid & Chemical Co., McKesson & Robbins and Walgreen Drug Co., Borden Co., Libby, McNeill & Libby; Owens-Illinois Glass Co., Remington Rand Inc., Standard Oil Co., Shell Petroleum Corp., Postal Telegraph Co., Bell Telephone Co., Western Union, Newark Ledger, Radio Corp. of America manufacturing division, Magnavox Corp., Pullman Co., Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co., Worth Chain Stores, Montgomery Ward, Goodrich Rubber, Firestone Rubber Co.

Bridges on Industrial War, Peace

(Continued from Page 1)

sale grocers may be unable to conduct business at the turn of the year. We are giving you this information because we think the trade should be informed of the situation. They may want to protect themselves."

Whereupon Bridges commented: "This doesn't sound like a brotherly spirit."

Safeway and Western States Grocery Co. were cited as fighting to undermine the union.

Fine Words

The Committee of 43 trio—A. Crawford Greene, attorney; J. W. Howell, of the Chamber of Commerce; and W. P. Fuller, Jr., of the Community Chest, and paint company president—did not present any practical proposals. Instead they talked in generalities about "sitting around tables" and "wiping the slate clean," and about making San Francisco "as decent and happy and friendly a city as possible." They "deplore" that there should be "suspect and distrust on both sides."

Greene spoke of a "world situation full of friction," and similar friction nationally and in San Francisco.

"I feel you may have some views that may shock us at first," said Greene, "and we may have some ideas that you don't agree with."

Greene urged leaving the question of legislation aside, saying, "we don't agree with you on your views."

Union Basis for Peace

Bridges and the other CIO delegates insisted there must be some basis for industrial peace, "and not a basis that would lead to elimination or emasculation of the unions." They declared such a basis must include recognition of the unions and preference for union men, upon which the employers did not comment.

"One of the things we're definitely going to lay down," said Bridges, "is that you pull your spies out of our organizations."

"Don't say our spies," said Greene.

"Well, get your associates to pull those four out of the Warehousemen," said Bridges, referring to the expose of labor espionage by the LaFollette Committee. (See Page 8.)

On Strikes

Bridges declared the "industrial peace" sought by the employers means "no strikes," saying: "We can't blindly commit ourselves to a policy not to strike under any circumstances, but we can discuss channels to be resorted to, to stop unnecessary strikes, such as the blockade last September on the waterfront."

Greene protested they did not mean compulsory arbitration, and said: "If I were in your position, I'd never give up that right (to strike)."

Teamo Czar Hits

Right to Strike

SAN FRANCISCO—Joseph M. Casey, international auditor and organizer for the AFL Brotherhood of Teamsters, attacked the right to strike in an address before the convention of the Northern California Chapter, Association of Contractors of America, last week.

When the Rich Get Scared

Francis cries are raised against the seamen, who show signs of union independence, cries ringing all the way from "impudence" and "insubordination" to "mutiny," "conspiracy," "rebellion" and "Communism."

"Throw 'em in irons!" is the demand of the comfortable sentimentalists who ordinarily believe in being "kind to sailors." And a regular lynch spirit is whipped up by press, radio and all the other means usually employed to make the rich believe their privileges are threatened by a revolt of the poor.

Meanwhile, in the ensuing confusion, the hard-faced men who

FASCIST POLICE SEIZE SIMPSON IN BRAZIL PORT

Ship Crew Protests to Hull On Arrest of 2 Seamen; Hitler Hand Seen

(Special to Western Worker) NEW YORK—Two American seamen, Lawrence Simpson (who was released from a German Nazi jail last year after a world wide protest movement) and Martin Offner, were jailed by Brazilian political police in Rio de Janeiro last November 18 as soon as they got off their ship, the Munson liner Pan-America, the men reported upon their return here.

Simpson was threatened with shooting by the Brazilian political police, which is modeled after the Nazi Gestapo, and was questioned from a dossier of his record sent from Germany, he revealed.

Crew Protested

The ship's crew protested to Secretary of State Cordell Hull, demanding "the State Department act to protect the rights of innocent American seamen in Brazilian ports so as to avoid any recurrence of these unfriendly and overt acts on the part of the newly-formed Government of Brazil."

The crew also protested seizure of copies of the "Pilot," official National Maritime Union organ, when the quarters of the two seamen were searched aboard ship. The men were picked up by police a few minutes after they set foot on the dock, and hustled to Los Invalides Prison in a taxi.

Aped Nazi Police

Simpson said the police "looked as if they were trying to act like the Gestapo. All their filing systems and records were kept like the Germans."

Simpson was then thrown into a cell overnight, with Offner, who said they discovered they were not too close friends of Simpson's and in the morning taken back to the ship.

Rap 'Dumpings' at AFL Meet in L. A.

LOS ANGELES—Repercussion of the "goon" attacks on three delegates of the Central Labor Council last week, were heard on the council floor last Friday. Pfhnters Local 5 presented a resolution vigorously protesting the beatings, and stating the local would not oppose appropriation of \$75,000 for organization providing there was some guarantee that "goon" terror would be stopped.

The resolution was referred to the Executive Committee without discussion.

Opposed "Goon"

The beatings occurred when three Painters' delegates were set upon while leaving the council. The beaten men were John Gudwanger, J. R. Schantz and L. Schatz. They had attended a special council meeting called to pass a proposed appropriation of \$75,000 "for organization purposes."

The Painters' delegates were instructed by their local to oppose the appropriation if it was to be used to fight the CIO.

Teamo Czar Hits Right to Strike

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Victim of Nazis Jailed in Rio



A FEW MONTHS AGO Dictator Vargas of Brazil set up a fascist dictatorship, under tutelage of Hitler's agents. Last month Lawrence Simpson (seated, in center of photo), American seaman from Seattle, Wash., who spent long months in a Nazi prison until freed by world-wide protests, was arrested by Brazilian political police and threatened with death. When the police put him back aboard ship the next morning, they told a ship's officer not to allow Simpson ashore again in Brazil, or he would be arrested again.

Foc'sle and Dock

By BILL SMITH

WHY DID the Sailors' Union delegates to the San Francisco AFL Labor Council introduce a resolution, the first section of which was a verbatim copy of one that appeared in the Socialist Appeal, New York Trotskyite sheet?

Why did these same people who often boast that they don't give a damn what goes on off the waterfront, suddenly develop such a keen interest in the murder of P. J. Corcoran all the way back in Minneapolis, Minnesota?

Why did they rise to the defense of Dave Beck, which is the only interpretation that can be placed on their malicious attack upon those forces in the Pacific Coast labor movement who condemn "goon squads" and gangsterism?

Conclusion for SUP

THESE are questions that we do not expect Brother Lundberg to answer. But the Sailors' Union membership might do well to ponder over them. And if they do, they cannot escape the following conclusions:

1. Some of the leading clique in the Sailors Union is definitely allied with the Trotskyites (despite all their protestations against political action). Otherwise, they never would have picked up bodily this resolution from a Trotskyite sheet, nor would they have risen to the defense of the Minneapolis Trotskyites who are now squirming because the Corcoran murder has thrown the spotlight on their connections with Chicago gunmen. In fact, so exactly did they copy the resolution from the "Socialist" Appeal (which has nothing in common with Socialism, since its editors have been expelled from the Socialist Party) that, although the Western Worker republished some of the material carried in the Daily Worker on the Corcoran murder, they only attacked the Daily Worker in their resolution.

2. There must be something phoney about people who attempt to whitewash gangsterism in the labor movement. Don't they know that Dave Beck operates a "goon" squad? Don't they know that Jack Shelley of the San Francisco Labor Council was slugged by goons at the Long Beach State Federation of Labor convention?

Then why do they grow indignant at the accusation that there is "gangsterism" in the labor movement?

Slimy Resolution

HERE is what the slimy resolution had to say:

through strike action; and in building effective labor organization in place of the bureaucratic company unionism that existed previously under AFL auspices.

Once it became clear, through election results, that the seamen were choosing the NMU by overwhelming majorities, and that no legal means could be found to prevent the NMU from negotiating worthwhile contracts as their chosen bargaining agency, the conspiracy got under way.

The Algic Case

The case of the S. S. Algic served as a pretext to bring the campaign against the seamen into the open. Acres of editorials and ridiculous red baiting articles suddenly covered the press of the country; radio commentators made lying propaganda against marine labor an almost nightly program; and "mutiny" stories were dug up from fiction and ancient history to frighten the public.

The purpose of all this hullabaloo, of course, was not just to victimize the Algic's crew—men

whose only crime has been to show some union independence against "bucko" officers, and to refuse, while in safe harbor, to work with incompetent scabs who would have endangered their lives.

The purpose, as is now becoming obvious, was to prepare the ground for legislation such as is being railroaded through Congress, unless labor can prevent it.

The First Step

THIS legislation, the NMU declares, is inspired by shipowners who are using it to stall off pending negotiations with the union, and who hope through it to limit the seamen's right to strike.

The proposed amendments also have other features obnoxious to labor, destroying present mediation machinery; authorizing shipbuilding with Government money in foreign yards while hundreds of thousands of American steel and shipyard workers are unemployed; and permitting the raising of salaries above \$25,000

SHIPWRIGHTS BLOW DOWN HUTCHESON

Refuse to Leave Maritime Fed. Despite Edict of Carpenters' Czar

SAN FRANCISCO — When William Hutcheson, Brotherhood of Carpenters czar and reactionary Republican, tried to force three Carpenters' locals here to withdraw from the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, because of the presence of CIO unions in the federation, he caught a tartar.

The Shipwrights & Joiners, Local 1149, voted to divide the union funds among the membership, to protect their treasury if the charter was "jerked," when it received Hutcheson's edict last month.

Members Contradict Muir

Local Secretary Thomas O'Brien, with Business Agent George Sanfanco and Past President Ben Peabody, thereupon filed charges against President John McIvor and five rank and filers for "violating the constitution and by-laws." McIvor was then "tried" and "expelled" by a rump trial committee of business agents and Hutcheson stooges on the Carpenters District Council.

On December 9, Abe Muir and Dave Cameron, Hutcheson's stooges on the Pacific Coast, came to the meeting to depose McIvor, saying he had no right to preside. The vice president took the chair, and right away the rank and file passed a motion to put McIvor back in the chair.

Vote for Federation

On December 18, at a special meeting, Cameron came back and insisted McIvor was expelled and couldn't preside, but the rank and file voted he could preside, and further, by a secret ballot, voted 94-45 to stay in the Maritime Federation. Preceding the vote, the members heard Harry Bridges, Intl. Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union president, and Henry Schmidt, ILWU president.

Ship Caulkers Local 554 first voted to comply with the Hutcheson edict but on December 17, voted to call a special meeting to rescind the vote to leave the federation.

Pile Drivers Local 34 still has its delegates in District Council No. 2 of the Maritime Federation. A special meeting on January 7 will consider the question.

It seems to us that their so-called "independence" is not as independent as they would have you believe. And it also seems that the Vandeleur-Buzzell dominated State AFL Committee, the most reactionary in history, knew what it was doing when it placed Arthur J. Probert on the Resolutions Committee.

Steady as she goes — yeh, straight on the rocks.

Steel Union Flays Wage Garnishee

PITTSBURG, Contra Costa County—Steel Workers Lodge 1440 flayed garnisheeing of workers' wages in a strong resolution recently adopted:

"Whereas: The so-called 'credit' or 'time payment' system of merchandising has become of almost universal use, and

"Whereas: Every conceivable device, and unlimited money, is being utilized by the corporations to induce working people to 'charge' merchandise, payment to be dependent upon an earning capacity which, because of the caprice of employers, is large hypothetical, and

"Whereas: All forms of deferred payment plans are fundamentally based upon mutual trust and confidence, and any other aspect tends to lead to exploitation of the working class of people, and

"Whereas: The only means the worker has of sustaining life is the income which he derives from labor, therefore be it

"Resolved: That the legal form known as the Garnishee, or Wage Attachment, which, with-

out recourse, mortgages the income upon which the worker must depend for survival, be declared unconstitutional, and be it further

"Resolved: That until such time as this may be done, organized labor shall consider those merchants who indiscriminately use this form for the purpose of a rapid business turn-over, or for the purpose of supporting some parasitic collection agency, enemies of labor, and be it further

"Resolved: That copies of this resolution be sent to Labor's Non-Partisan League, to district Senators and Assemblymen, and to the Retailers Credit Assn."

If the shipowners and their allies are successful in restricting the seamen's right to strike, the next step will assuredly be to attempt to extend restrictive legislation to cover all unions.

That is why there is a general line-up of employers with the ship owners in their conspiracy against the seamen; and that is why the CIO is calling upon all of labor to rally behind the seamen in their resistance to such legislative assaults.

The council meets Friday nights at 149 Mason St., Textile Workers Hall, and is opening offices in the Balboa Bldg.

Executive board members are Charles Bowman, S. M. DeWitt, Ben Fee, Marie Gagnon, Angela Gizzi, T. F. Kelly, D. F. Maguire, Francis McCarthy, H. Norman, John Power, Marie O'Donnell, Henry Schmidt, J. Silvanes and J. W. Thompson.

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Point of Order

A Trade Union Column By JOHN BROMAN

"THIS is a fascist town," I was told when I arrived in Modesto. "Be careful what you say around here."

I had heard a little about the throttle-hold reaction has on this city of some 10000 to 15000 population; I soon heard more.

Modesto is the stamping ground of an ace big-mouth of the Associated Farmers, one Fred Hogue. This is where small dairy owners of the Western Cooperative Dairyman's Union have been victimized by the bovine t. b. test, which is okay as is for the wealthy landowners and bankers of the Associated Farmers.

I remembered several small farmers were arrested last spring in a demonstration against the tests without adequate compensation for their destroyed cattle.

Jack Meheigan, who runs a 9th street pool room, with gambling in the back room, is the political boss, I was told. He does the dirty work for the Associated Farmers' crowd, along with District Attorney, who helped Standard Oil frame the Modesto Boys.

Flagrant Jim-Crowism

STANISLAUS COUNTY is one of the richest farming areas in the state; there are huge canneries there, whose owners profit greatly from the exploitation of the agricultural and cannery workers.

Only a few months ago, the police rounded up cannery workers all along "skid row" and if they didn't have a job, told them to get out of town or be "vagged."

I saw many instances of racial discrimination. One restaurant had a Neon sign "White Help Only." The J. K. Scott Drug Store, 10th and J Sts., has on its lunch counter menu: "We cater to white trade only."

Obviously the reactionary machine isn't overlooking any bets in seeking to maintain their profitable stranglehold.

Interested in CIO

BUT THE picture isn't entirely black. Of course, the AFL officials there (Nunnely, who organized scabs for the Stockton cannery strike) aren't much help but apparently the workers take a healthy interest in unionism.

Talking to a teamster, I remarked that I belonged to a CIO union.

"That's all right," said the teamster. "If they had a CIO here, I'd join it!"

Several restaurant workers showed an interest in the CIO button I wore, wanting to know what union I belonged to, etc.

The CIO has a foothold in Modesto—a local of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers of America—and it won't be very long before progressive unionism will be standing solidly on two feet in this city, winning the workers a more just share of the wealth produced in Stanislaus County. Unity between the workers, the small merchants, the poor and middle farmers, will destroy the vigilante reign of Hogue, Meheigan and Cleary.

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"Resolved: That copies of this resolution be sent to Labor's Non-Partisan League, to district Senators and Assemblymen, and to the Retailers Credit Assn."

The CIO committee includes Harry Bridges, Pacific Coast CIO director; Henry Schmidt, Longshoremen's president; Eugene Paton, Warehousemen's president; Lester Glasson, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers; Barry Millikan, United Office & Professional Workers; George Wilson, N. W. paperer Guild; Charles Krolock, American Radio Telegraphists.

Council officers are George Wilson, president; Sonia Balmtrum, United Textile Workers, vice president; Herman Stuyvelaar, Ship Clerks, secretary-treasurer; Joe Ring, Longshoremen, sergeant-at-arms.

Executive board members are Charles Bowman, S. M. DeWitt, Ben Fee, Marie Gagnon, Angela Gizzi, T. F. Kelly, D. F. Maguire, Francis McCarthy, H. Norman, John Power, Marie O'Donnell, Henry Schmidt, J. Silvanes and J. W. Thompson.

The council meets Friday nights at 149 Mason St., Textile Workers Hall, and is opening offices in the Balboa Bldg.

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CONTRA COSTA CIO WORKS FOR BROADER UNITY

Seven Unions Give Reasons Why They Built the New Industrial Council

RICHMOND—"In Contra Costa County the Industrial Council would cohere the forces already established; it would organize new forces, which otherwise are likely to be lost through vacillation; it would, with the vitality of youth, stimulate the Labor Movement in the county as it has throughout the nation; it would build unity on a much broader scale, because behind its flying wedge would be all the positive forces of the people, inspired by able leadership and fundamentally correct principles."

Plan Organizing

With this vital statement of aims, seven Committee for Industrial Organizations in this county have set up a CIO Industrial Council, after withdrawing from the AFL Contra Costa Central Trades & Labor Council, and are planning organizing drives.

In a report prepared by B. L. Anderline, Intl. Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, and M. E. Davis, Steel Workers 1440, the CIO unions further declared:

"It is the sincere wish and anticipation of your delegates, and of these organizations, that the labor movement in this county will be bettered by their action; that a spirit of activity and harmony shall prevail which will in the final summing accomplish the deliverance of the working people."

The seven unions are the Cement Workers of Cowell, Smelter Workers of Selby, Oil Workers of Martinez, Oil Workers of Rodeo, Chemical Workers of Richmond, Warehousemen & Longshoremen of Crockett and Steel Workers of Pittsburg.

As to unions remaining in the AFL body whose charter had been threatened and only temporarily saved by court injunction, the CIO report stated:

"Best Possible Unity"

"The American Federation of Labor charter will be retained by the Contra Costa Central Trades & Labor Council which will now be able to work side by side with the Industrial Council in a spirit of cooperation. Is not that the best possible unity?"

The report said the Central Trades & Labor Council, when both AFL and CIO unions were represented, had shown tendencies "confusing and of purpose with a belief that AFL delegates and CIO delegates must sit together in meeting."

San Francisco CIO Elects Officers

SAN FRANCISCO—With election of regular officers, the CIO District